

New rules to speed handling of refugees

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Tomorrow

Racing June
How to make the most of Ascot and the Derby

Black power
Fighting to unionize South Africa's gold mines

After Everest
Chris Bonington looks for a more lowly challenge

Serious challenge
Why professionals take the latest pro-club golf tournament seriously

Portfolio

There were five winners in The Times Portfolio competition yesterday. Miss Nicola Wilson of Cricklewood, London; Mr Neil Radford of Norwich; Canon Arthur Perry of Walsingham, Norfolk; Mr Timothy Keynson of Edenbridge, Kent; and Mr M Reed of Tonbridge, Kent, each received £400. Portfolio list, page 18; how to play, back page information service.

No-strike deal urged for teachers

Teachers' strikes are increasing truancy and as a result teachers should consider giving up the right to strike in return for a professional salary and a pay review body, head teachers were told at their Scarborough conference.

Trade back in the black

Britain's trade was back in the black last month with a current account surplus of £123 million, against a £555 million deficit in March. The improvement came as oil imports dropped by £447 million.

NHS accolade

Most people are very satisfied with the care and treatment they receive from the National Health Service.

Mengele hunt

A US Justice Department team will go to Paraguay, Argentina and Brazil next month to hunt for Dr Josef Mengele, the Auschwitz "Angel of Death".

Warnock fear

Mr Enoch Powell's Bill on the protection of unborn children is simplistic and unrealistic, says Dame Mary Warnock. If it is passed, "moral fantasy" will have triumphed.

Militant 'plot'

Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, Labour MP for Knowsley North, has accused Militant Tendency supporters of intimidation and blackmail in a conspiracy to oust him from his seat.

Moscow clash

The World Chess Federation announced yesterday that the championship rematch between Anatoly Karpov, the world champion, and Gary Kasparov would start in Moscow on September 2.

ENIGMA

The last chance to crack the Enigma code - and win a holiday in the Far East. Today's clue is in the back page information service.

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Leading articles: Geneva arms talks; tax reform; leaving school at 14
Features, pages 10 and 12: Israel's ironic victory; Enoch's wishful thinking on embryo research; Korea's taste of democracy: What happens if Parliament is hung? Special Branch in profile
Books, page 11: Hugh Barnes reviews Durrell and other fiction of the week; John Selwyn Gummer on the colossus of Downing Street; Taki on unemployment; Hugh Montgomery-Massingberd on a Russian novel; Marcel Berlins on crime
Obituary, page 14
Harold Hecht, Mr Robert Nathan

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British teams face European ban after rioting leads to Brussels horror

Soccer fans die as wall collapses at Euro Cup final

At least 38 British and Italian soccer fans died and more than 70 were seriously injured when barriers collapsed on the terraces 45 minutes before the scheduled start of last night's European Cup final in Brussels between Liverpool and Juventus of Turin.

The start of the match was delayed as officials and ambulances cleared the terraces, and finally kicked off 88 minutes late in front of a capacity crowd of 58,000.

The disaster occurred when barriers at one end of the stadium gave way during a stampede by Italian spectators after they were charged by a section of the Liverpool crowd.

There could be little doubt that Liverpool supporters were primarily responsible, and it must be expected that British clubs will now be banned from European football for several years.

The scenes in one corner of the stadium were of pandemonium, as helmeted Red Cross and emergency hospital services tried to cope with the injured in the middle of a stampede that continued even after it was evident that some were dead.

Emergency surgical tents were set up by the Belgian Army in the car park in front of the main stand of the Olympic Stadium.

From David Miller, Brussels

At least 20 dead bodies when I was able to get near to the scene were covered with tarpaulin as nurses stepped among the injured, trying to determine those who were still alive and to give them transfusions, artificial respiration and other emergency life support.

With bodies still on the terraces among a pile of clothes and debris, the estimated number of dead was increasing every 15 minutes.

The wall of ambulance sirens ferrying the injured to hospital was never-ending, and in the pandemonium there were dozens of unattended injured, sobbing and being comforted by friends or relatives.

The suddenness of the incident made it impossible for the emergency services immediately to cope.

It is thought that most of the dead and injured were Italians, for it was their section of the terraces at one end where the barriers collapsed. But it has to be said that the security arrangements were woefully inadequate, however much Liverpool supporters must be blamed.

The emergency number to ring for details of the injured in Brussels is 010 322 5179611.

There was an empty area between rival supporters. But with 45 minutes to go to kick-off Liverpool supporters broke the inadequate barriers separating them from the Italians, who had been increased by a hail of rockets and missiles from the Liverpool section.

The Italians panicked, turned and rushed towards the one main exit in that corner. Dozens were trampled underfoot or crushed against barriers.

Hundreds of Italian supporters escaped on to the pitch, and other fights around the stadium broke out between rival fans and with the police, who sent in platoons of men armed with helmets and shields.

After almost an hour the pitch had still not properly been cleared while, unknown to most of the crowd, the dead and injured were still being carried from the terraces.

At one stage Joe Fagan, the Liverpool manager who had announced his retirement earlier in the day, came out on to the pitch in a red Liverpool shirt to try to instil some order.

But by then it was too late. The fighting had become fragmented and isolated in small groups.

Nobody, of whatever nationality, could attempt to defend England's wretched



Rescue workers and supporters tend injured fans among broken crash barriers on the wrecked terrace.

Why the match had to go on

Brussels - At a moment when funeral music should have been playing on the loudspeakers in mourning for the dead in the Brussels football disaster, officials of UEFA, the European federation, and the Brussels police and civic authorities were wrestling with the dilemma of whether or not to continue with the match.

Morally the match should have been cancelled, but to have turned the majority of a 58,000 crowd out of the Olympic stadium as to the streets would have been to take the risk of a night of extended violence throughout the city among rival supporters, many of whom were drunk.

In such circumstances, to have cancelled the game would have been irresponsible.

Frustration on the terraces had begun to mount at the delay, for the majority of people would not have known of the death toll in the stampede.

To have announced that there had been deaths, the majority of them Italians, would have been to provoke a riot of further protest by the people from Turin. That in turn would almost certainly have produced an even worse, unmanageable crisis.

At 9.42 local time the European Cup Final began almost an hour and a half late in the most macabre circumstances I have ever experienced in 29 years covering the game.

Gemayel escapes in palace shelling

From Our Correspondent, Beirut

President Amin Gemayel escaped death yesterday when two shells hit the private wing of the Presidential Palace close to the room where he was having lunch. It was the second time the palace has been hit in two days.

The shelling wrecked a conference room and Mr Gemayel's office on the second floor of the two-story building, palace sources said.

President Gemayel was showered with broken glass from a window but was not hurt, a palace spokesman said. No casualties were reported from the barrage on the hilltop palace in Baabda, five miles east of the Lebanese capital.

The President left 30 minutes later by helicopter for Larnaca, Cyprus, where he took an airliner to Damascus for two days of talks with President Assad of Syria. He is understood to be pressing Syria to send troops into Beirut to halt the fighting between Palestinian guerrillas and Shia Muslims who have been battling for 10 days in the city's three refugee camps. Officials said several shells hit other parts of the Baabda palace, but the worst damage was confined to the President's personal quarters. The shells started fires that were put out by presidential guards and civil defence teams.

There were conflicting reports about who fired the shells, but they were a timely reminder to President Gemayel that war-torn Lebanon is sliding deeper into a crisis that he appears powerless to solve.

Military sources said the barrage came from the south-west of Baabda, which would put the source of the shelling in the middle of the battle zone around the ramshackle refugee camps.

The sources said the shells were fired from 120mm artillery pieces. The Palestinians are known to have such weapons.

Palestinian sources have claimed that Mr Gemayel was personally approved providing Army ammunition for the predominantly Shia Sixth Brigade of the Lebanese Army fighting alongside the Amal militiamen in the camps, so that they can storm the camps and end the fighting.

● **BRITON KILLED:** Mr Denis Hill, a Briton who taught English at the American University here, has been shot dead in Muslim west Beirut.

The university yesterday said his body was found by colleagues in the university hospital mortuary among unidentified corpses. He had been missing since Monday.

The university spokesman, Mr Radwan Mawlawi, said Mr Hill, aged 53, who is from Middlesex, had been shot six times in the head, apparently at close range.

Mr Hill lived in an apartment building near the university, an area controlled by druze and Shia muslim militias that has become a hunting ground for gunmen kidnapping Westerners in recent months.

● **Islamic Jihad** has claimed responsibility for the murder of Mr Hill in a communiqué telephoned to the Beirut bureau of a news agency (Agence France Presse reports).

Pits dispute goes on after talks fail

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Disruption in the coal industry is to continue indefinitely after the breakdown last night between the National Coal Board and the pit deputies' union NCBDO.

The breakdown came after the coal board set in motion an unexpectedly swift peace process aimed at ending the two-week industrial action by pit deputies.

Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the coal board, called all his area directors to attend a "summit" with leaders of the deputies' union Nacods, at which moves to end the conflict were discussed.

It was not immediately clear how close the two sides were to ending the overtime ban, but it is certain that there has been ministerial pressure on the board to bring the dispute to a rapid end.

The Government is unhappy that almost three months after the end of the year-long miners strike the coal board and the mining unions have not yet agreed on a modified colliery review procedure that would encompass the shutdown of "uneconomic" mines.

The deputies embarked on their disruption on May 18 in protest at the board's threatened closure of some pits before the new procedure had been established.

Yesterday's talks at the coal board headquarters in London, coincided with local discussions in the Kent coalfield which - to the surprise of the unions locally - revived all three pits in the area.

British children killed in coach crash

By Michael Horsnell and Diana Geddes

A school adventure holiday in France ended in tragedy yesterday when seven Britons, including five children, were killed in an unexplained coach crash.

All 39 survivors were injured in the crash which happened at noon on a tortuous "black-spot" section of the Route Nationale 110 at Lagnan near Montpellier and two are said to be critically ill. But 10 were being released from hospital last night.

The dead included the driver, named by French police as Mr Harry Hughes, aged 35, whose coach is believed to have veered off the road after losing control. No other vehicle is believed to have been involved.

The children, aged 14-18, were from two county secondary schools, Verulam School and Beaumont School, in St Albans, Herts.

The three others killed were teachers who had accompanied the party on the £235-a-head adventure holiday which set out last Friday and was due to return this weekend.

Parents and schoolfriends gathered outside the schools throughout the afternoon awaiting news while attempts were made to arrange for parents to be flown to France.

Deaths on the French roads are higher per head than in any Western industrialized country except Austria despite a series of road safety measures introduced in 1982 and 1983. These include a cut in speed limits in bad weather, a lowering of the permitted alcohol consumption for drivers and a ban on heavy

Brittan puts visa bar on fleeing Tamils

By George Hill

New restrictions on Tamils wishing to flee to Britain from persecution in Sri Lanka were announced by the Government yesterday. Unlike citizens of any other Commonwealth country, Sri Lankans will be required from today to obtain visas before travelling to Britain.

The new rule, announced less than 10 hours before it was due to come into effect, will give the Government extra powers to halt at source members of the Tamil minority seeking asylum in Britain, after the sudden increase in numbers arriving since last week.

The speed with which Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, has reacted underlines the determination he expressed on Tuesday not to let the flow of Tamils become a flood.

The requirement had been introduced reluctantly, the Home Office said yesterday, as the only means of preventing the arrival of further large numbers of Tamils who do not qualify for admission into Britain.

The new rule means that there will now be three categories of Tamil seeking permission to stay in Britain. Those who arrived before May 20, were allowed, as a special concession, to stay for six months on a temporary basis. Those arriving between May 20 and midnight last night will have their cases individually considered, with the possibility of being sent back if they cannot satisfy the Home Secretary that they qualify for refugee status or risk severe hardship if sent back.

Now a third category will be created, who will be unable to enter the country without visas issued by the British High Commission in Sri Lanka, which has not in the past been staffed to meet a demand for visas for this purpose.

Discoverer of the radio desert island dies

By Robin Young

Roy Plomley, the man who devised and presented the longest-running programme radio history, died on Monday at the age of 71. The latest edition of *Desert Island Discs*, the show he presented for more than 43 years, had been broadcast little more than two weeks ago. It was the 1,791st castaway interview he had conducted.

Friends yesterday were paying tribute to the unfailing cheerfulness which was the hallmark of his private life as much as of his radio presentation.

"I do not see the point of putting people's backs up", Mr Plomley used to say. "You get more out of them if you get on with them."

His technique was to get to know his guests over lunch before broadcasting their choice of records. Men he entertained at the Garrick Club and women at the Lansdowne. Then they would spend the afternoon together sifting through records from the BBC archive.

By the time of recording the guest was totally at ease, certain there would be no unexpected surprises, and despite the stature of many of his guests, who included royalty and prime ministers, Plomley was never intimidated and always retained his calm soft-spoken manner, laughing politely whenever required.

Things were not always so easy in the studio as they sounded to the listener. Plomley was privately furious when one soprano chose eight of her own records, but held to his side of the bargain - that the choice of music was entirely the castaway's. No hint of his anger could be discerned in his voice, but he did recall the episode wryly long afterwards.

Plomley was himself the castaway in the last programme of his first series of eight, early in 1941. He admitted then that he did not himself like the idea of being alone on a desert island.

For all that, friends remember him as an introverted and rather shy man, nervously self-conscious about his public image at times, but always cheerfully ready to send himself up. He did that, for example, by agreeing to appear in an episode of *Ray's a Laugh* which spoofed his radio programme, and more recently by collaborating playfully in a tongue-in-cheek television programme celebrating *Desert Island Discs* fortieth anniversary.

Having worked early in life for the French commercial station Radio Normandie, Plomley, radio's most perfect English gentleman, remained a committed Francophile.



MP is defiant after 'Militant' blackmail' over deselection

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, a Labour front-bencher, has accused Militant Tendency supporters of intimidation and blackmail in a conspiracy to oust him from his parliamentary constituency of Knowsley North.

The *Liverpool Echo* reported last night that the MP had told a private constituency party meeting on Tuesday that he had been approached by another Merseyside MP in the Commons, who had offered him an "extraordinary" deal.

He had been told that if he voluntarily stepped down as a Labour candidate in his own safe Labour seat, he would be selected for the neighbouring marginal Conservative seat in West Lancashire. If he refused the offer and was then deselected for his own seat, he would be blackballed in West Lancashire.

It has long been accepted that Militant is strong in Knowsley North and that Mr Kilroy-Silk faces deselection.

He told his party that he was willing to accept deselection and was willing to be judged on his record.

But he appealed for help in the fight against the Militant campaign. He said: "We cannot have our party manipulated by a secret caucus in Liverpool. We cannot have our party hijacked in this way."

He said he was not prepared to accept intimidation and blackmail, and that he would fight the Trotskyist plotters.

Mr Kilroy-Silk told *The Times* last night: "I am very angry and determined to oppose it. I am not going to be blackmailed and I am not going to be intimidated." But he refused to go into detail of the constituency party meeting.

Labour leaders will greet the Militant offer as a staggering political blunder, and a further indication of Liverpool Militants' over-confidence - which, it is said, will be their downfall.

Senior Labour sources believe that there is growing evidence of a Militant split between the Trotskyist Tendency's London headquarters and Liverpool, which is effectively controlled by Militant's local leadership.

But it was also being pointed out that elsewhere in the country the Tendency had failed to deliver its own much-heralded promise. Constituency after constituency had rejected Militant attempts to win parliamentary nominations.

Ms Jenny Edwards, a Camden Council worker, has been selected from an all-women shortlist to be Labour's prospective parliamentary candidate for Westminster North.

11 punished for public school drugs

The Master of Marlborough College yesterday criticized parents who allow their children to go to parties where cannabis is smoked.

Mr Roger Ellis spoke after expelling one pupil aged 17 and suspending another 10 sixth-formers for smoking the drug.

Mr Ellis called in Wiltshire police Tuesday after complaints from other pupils at the 870 pupil public school.

Mr Ellis said: "Apparently a 17-year-old youth bought a quantity of cannabis at a party during the holidays and brought it back to school. He has since sold it to 10 other pupils here and they have apparently been smoking it at school."

"I am very concerned that parents of my pupils allow their children to go to parties which are unsupervised, and where drugs can be obtained. It is something which they should be particularly vigilant about, especially with the ever-growing danger and availability of drugs."

Government blamed for joblessness

By Our Economics Correspondent

The Government's economic policies have been the main cause of Britain's high unemployment, according to the first paper published by the Employment Institute. Fiscal expansion is needed to cut the number of jobs.

The author, Professor Rudiger Dornbusch, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, delivered a hard-hitting attack on policy in a lecture at King's College London yesterday. The Government's claim that low inflation and tight policy would reduce unemployment has failed to prove itself, he said.

"There is little evidence of success so far. On the contrary, it looks as if Mrs Thatcher's Financial Secretary (MIPS for short) might turn out to be the big blunder of the 1980s." Professor Dornbusch proposed personal tax and national insurance cuts, more job creation schemes and increased public investment.

£1m for Australia gala

The government is giving £1 million towards the Australian bicentenary celebrations. They will begin in England at Portsmouth on May 13th, 1987, 200 years from the date Admiral Arthur Phillip's first fleet set sail to colonize the new continent.

The fleet landed on January 26, 1788, at the site of the future city of Sydney.

Last night at Guildhall, London, the Britain-Australia Bicentennial Committee held its inaugural banquet to raise funds for events.

Alderman Sir Peter Gadsden, a former Lord Mayor of London, who is chairman of the committee, said Mrs Margaret Thatcher would herself tell Mr Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister, of Britain's gift.

BBC faces rivals in bid for £30m White City site

By Rupert Morris

The BBC is bidding for the former greyhound stadium at White City, close to the corporation's television headquarters in west London.

The 16½-acre site, which is owned by the property company Stock Conversion and Investment Trust, is thought to be worth about £30 million, and possible purchasers include the Asda, Sainsbury and Tesco store chains.

The BBC would make no comment yesterday beyond saying it was always "bound to have an interest" in sites which became available close to its existing premises.

Since the announcement of the £25 licence fee, instead of the £65 requested by the corporation, the need to cut costs has cast increasing doubt on the £100-million plan to build a new broadcasting centre at the Langham Hotel, opposite Broadcasting House in central London. It is now officially "under review".

BBC radio staff are apprehensive about a move away from central London.

Mr Jonathan Lane, joint managing director of Stock Conversion, said yesterday: "There are a number of substantial competing interests in the White City site, but we have many options open."

Mr Lane said the BBC has applied to Edinburgh District Council for planning permission to build a replacement for Broadcasting House, Edinburgh, on its site in Leith Street.

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The wreck of the coach which crashed in France yesterday killing and injuring children and teachers from St Albans, Hertfordshire, who were on a school adventure holiday.

Dairy trade worry on milk scheme

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The milk marketing scheme, established more than 50 years ago, is falling, Mr Christopher Ball, president of the Dairy Trade Federation, said yesterday.

He deplored the attitudes and actions of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Milk Marketing Board, he told the federation's annual luncheon in London.

The position of the board's Dairy Crest subsidiary had undermined any concept of equal partnership between producers and manufacturers, he said.

The board had introduced a new pricing system which clearly favoured Dairy Crest products such as Clover spread and certain cheeses, without consulting the industry, while investigations continued into the relationship between the board and Dairy Crest.

Mr Ball added that there was a risk of skimmed milk going to intervention storage as surplus powder instead of being supplied to manufacturers as low-fat products such as yoghurt and cottage cheese, and that could not be in the public interest.

Mr Michael Jopling, Minister of Agriculture, said that EEC production would exceed consumption by about 13 per cent this year.

Head teachers' conference School strikes bring truancy

From Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent, Scarborough

The price of strike action by teachers is increasing truancy and strikes by pupils, Mr Derek Best, president of the National Association of Head Teachers, said yesterday.

For this and other reasons teachers should seriously consider giving up the right to strike in return for a professional salary and some machinery, such as a pay review body, to prevent salaries declining again, he told the Association's annual conference in Scarborough. His idea is similar to the no strike proposal for teachers developed by the Social Democratic Party.

Strikes not only damaged children's education but also damaged relationships between staff, he said.

The only way to get better pay was for teachers to change public opinion and persuade people to give up a larger percentage of their income in rates and taxes, he said. "The right way to do that is by argument, by persuasion, by example and by our professionalism. It is a battle for the minds of people, a battle in which strikes action merely serves to alienate and to undermine our claim to be treated as professional people."

Mr Best said that the refusal of teachers to take part in supervising pupils at lunchtimes, another strand in the present industrial action, caused problems for head teachers and

created indiscipline in afternoon lessons.

Head teachers had to decide whether to have too many pupils unsupervised at school on the site or to send them home at lunchtime "knowing that many will have empty homes to go to and may become part of an undisciplined mob threatening the neighbourhood, causing damage, creating a disturbance and completely undermining the confidence of local people in the schools and their faith in the professionalism and ability of teachers."

Term changes

The conference voted to campaign for a school year of four 10-week terms rather than three terms, and agreed that it should be introduced in 1988, the year of the new GCSE examinations.

Mr David Burbridge said that the other six teachers' associations were sympathetic to the idea and that the Association of County Councils was also interested. As chairman of a head teachers' working party on the subject he concluded that there were good educational reasons for the change. Terms and holidays were now too long.

Joseph attacked

Mr Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education, was denounced by the conference for being intransigent and insensitive over teachers' pay.

Leading article, page 13

Deadlock at hung councils

By Hugh Clayton, Local Government Correspondent

Two hung county councils were deadlocked yesterday, and precarious informal pacts in others showed signs of strain. Although minority administrations were formed in two more county councils, it was still impossible, almost a month after elections, to give an accurate overall picture of political control.

Since the elections on May 2 the shires have fallen into three categories. First, there are those such as Dorset (Conservative) and Staffordshire (Labour) where the ruling party held its overall majority so that political control is beyond doubt.

At the other extreme are hung counties such as Cumbria where the parties have failed to form an administration. Cumbria, which was formerly Labour-controlled, has an independent chairman, Conservative chairman of two committees and temporary Labour chairman of most other committees.

The third category of hung councils is ruled by minority administrations, usually because the third largest party group will not combine with the second to out the largest. The Liberal-Social Democratic Alliance took control of Gloucestershire yesterday, while Labour captured Northumberland after the Conservatives had declined to support Alliance proposals for power-sharing.

Labour has also taken minority control of Cheshire virtually without opposition, while in Cambridgeshire Labour voted the Alliance into power to exclude the once-dominant Conservatives.

Mrs Jean McFadden yesterday survived a challenge to her leadership of Glasgow's leading Labour group when she retained her position against the left candidate, Miss Pat Lally.

Strain of job

Headteachers spoke at the conference of the stresses and strains of their job which led to heart attacks, stomach ulcers and lunchtime laryngitis.

They passed a motion to press the Government to seek a national agreement that headteachers in larger schools should not have to do the onerous work involved in assessing pupil/teacher ratios.

Training threat

Five teacher training colleges and polytechnic departments which train teachers are to be closed in 1989 if a recommendation from the National Advisory Body on local authority higher education is approved later this summer.

The institutions under threat are North Riding College in Scarborough, the College of Saint Mark and Saint John in Plymouth, and the teacher education department at Portsmouth and North London Polytechnics and Hertfordshire College of Higher Education.

'Suicide watch' on youth dead in cell

By A Staff Reporter

A boy found hanged in the Glenochil detention centre near Alloa, Stirlingshire, had been under suicide observation with checks made on him every 15 minutes, a fatal accident inquiry was told yesterday at Alloa Sheriff Court.

Angus Boyd, aged 17, was the sixth person to die in the past five years at the centre, where "short, sharp shock" sentences are administered, and the adjoining young offenders' institution.

The inquiry heard that Boyd was being held in a six-cell segregation unit on February 18 when two prison officers found him hanging with a bedsheet knotted around his neck. They tried unsuccessfully to revive him. He had been confined for refusing to conform to detention centre training.

Among his belongings was a book on voodoo, evil spirits and witchcraft, but the post mortem examination found no evidence to determine whether his death was suicidal or accidental in the course of an experiment. Death was due to hanging, the examination report said.

Evidence was given that Boyd had claimed to a doctor at the centre that he was psychic and would die from a heart attack within a week.

The inquiry continues.

Amnesty urged for most prisoners

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

An amnesty for two-thirds of prisoners in British jails is urged by the National Association of Probation Officers today.

Those released would all be prisoners serving three years or less, who are not convicted of the most serious offences, and would be within six months of leaving prison.

The association calculates that as a result the sentenced jail population would fall to about 12,000.

The proposals, made in a report, *Criminal Justice - an Alternative Strategy*, are published and sent to MPs on the day Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, is due to open Wayland Prison, Bedford, built at a cost of £18.7 million with the aim of reducing jail congestion. Wayland is the first of 16 new prisons in a programme announced by the Home Secretary in November, 1983.

The association says the plans do not represent a balanced judgement, but rather an act of political dogmatism. Britain has proportionately one of the highest prison populations in Western Europe, and imposes longer sentences than any other European country, it says.

Criminal Justice - an alternative strategy, Napo (£1).

The 16 new prisons would provide 10,600 new places and involve the expenditure of £250 million at today's prices. There would be 5,500 extra staff.

The report says: "There is no evidence that the increased use of imprisonment is effective in reducing crime. There is, however, considerable evidence that custodial sentences do not have a reformative effect and that re-conviction rates are high."

The association points out that the French granted an amnesty to 6,000 prisoners out of 42,000 in 1983.

Changes in sentencing of young people led to about 1,000 inmates being released at one time in 1983. And the lowering of the minimum qualifying period for parole in July 1984 resulted in a further 2,500 being let out.

The Home Secretary already has power to grant a limited amnesty under Section 32 of the Criminal Justice Act, 1982. The section allows for the executive release of all prisoners within six months of normal release, except for the most serious offenders.

Criminal Justice - an alternative strategy, Napo (£1).

Firm seeks approval for party gifts

By Jeremy Warner

A City insurance brokers has broken new ground by announcing that it will seek shareholders' approval for donations to the Conservative Party.

Companies are required by law only to report political donations to shareholders in the next year's annual report.

Willis Faber said yesterday that it intended to advise shareholders of political donations before they are made.

Its chairman, Mr David Palmer, told the annual general meeting that Willis Faber intended to donate £40,000 this year to the Conservative Party, £2,500 to the Alliance parties and £1,000 to Aims of Industry.

"Our shareholders will appreciate that when making political donations we are motivated solely by our judgement as to what is in the interests of the company. The company said that directors believed that political donations were an area where shareholders' guidance should be sought."

An inquiry should be set up by the Lord Chancellor into the protection necessary for confidential medical information in courts of law, Dr John Havard, Secretary of the British Medical Association, said yesterday.

Dr Havard said there was "something seriously wrong with the law" on the question of privilege. Confidential medical information obtained in the doctor-patient relationship "enjoys no privilege other than that which judicial discretion may see fit to extend to it", he told the British Academy of Forensic Sciences, of which he is president.

"From the House of Lords down to industrial tribunals, little more than lip service is paid to the importance of medical confidentiality."

British children killed in crash

Continued from page 1

vehicles using the fast lanes of motorways.

The less seriously injured scrambled to safety through broken windows of the overturned coach and then returned to help others to get clear of the wreckage before French emergency services arrived.

The mixed party, which included nine girls from Beaumont School, was led by the school's geography teacher Mr Paul Bollington, who broke his ribs and is having an operation, and PE teacher Ms Ruth Baker, both in their twenties.

Three other teachers from Verulam School were on the coach. One, Keith Rowley, aged 27, broke his back in the crash. Police investigating the crash, which happened on a dangerous stretch of road, have recovered the vehicle's tachograph.

Mr Colin Isted, headmaster of Beaumont School, a mixed comprehensive, told *The Times*: "This is a terrible tragedy and one has the utmost sympathy for the parents. It will depend on their wishes what the school should do to pay tribute to those who have died when we reasonable on Monday."

Yesterday's accident was the third coach crash involving Britons in Europe this year. In February, 21 members of an RAF band were killed when their coach ran into a petrol tanker on a German autobahn near Munich. The following month 18 British tourists were injured when their holiday coach overturned on a Yugoslavian motorway 160 miles south of Belgrade.

In 1984 15 coach crashes on Spanish roads alone left nine Britons dead. Eight died in Majorca in May when their coach plunged off the road as they were being driven from Palma airport to their hotel.

And in France a party of 48 London schoolchildren had a narrow escape when their coach was hit by a lorry in central France. 48 French children died after two coaches collided on a motorway south of Paris in the worst crash on French roads in July 1982.

Lady Fretwell, wife of Sir John Fretwell, the British Ambassador to Paris, was expected to visit the scene of the crash together with embassy officials and speak to the survivors.

Three helicopters and 20 ambulances ferried the injured from the scene, eight miles south of Ales in Languedoc, to four hospitals at Nîmes, Ales, Bagnols and Montpellier.

The party was being driven from a canoeing centre on the Ardeche river to a camping site on the Mediterranean.

The two-part holiday was organized by PGL Young Adventure Holidays of Ros-on-Wye, Herefordshire which chartered a British coach for the eight-day trip.

Mr David Pitman, a spokesman for the company, told *The Times*: "We are sick about it. This is our first bad accident in 28 years. We don't know what caused the coach to crash."

The vehicle, which is believed to have been travelling at about 75 mph, sliced through a safety barrier and somersaulted down an embankment.

Labour report will support black sections

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

A Labour working party examining the demand for black section in the Labour Party is expected to conclude its report today with out right backing for black and Asian representation at constituency, regional and national levels.

The seven-month consultative exercise was launched after last year's party conference had rejected activists' calls for the creation of special recognition for blacks and Asians, such as is already accorded to women and youth.

But Mr Neil Kinnock, the party leader, surprised and shocked members of the working party last week when he specifically rejected any hope of constitutional change for black sections.

It is expected that today's report will be blocked by the Labour leader's majority on the national executive next month, although it is possible that an amendment will be moved to offer blacks and Asians the same indirect representation held by socialist societies such as the Jewish organization as Paole Zion.

Black sections campaigners regard that as an inadequate sop and can be expected to maintain their fight for full recognition at this year's party conference in Bournemouth.

Lear receiver

The Government yesterday appointed Mr Michael Jordan of Cork Gully as receiver to secure the assets of the collapsed Lear jet project in Northern Ireland.

The 1983 rules dropped the condition that British citizen wives had to have been born here, or have a parent born in Britain. They also introduced the "primary purpose" rule

under which husbands have to prove that their main purpose is to marry rather than settle. Because the primary purpose rule applies to husbands but not wives, the Home Office accepts that it too must be reviewed to comply with the European Court judgement.

The Home Office could put wives lawfully settled in Britain on the same footing as husbands, easing the entry to Britain of foreign husbands, or it could be more restrictive about the entry of foreign wives. The latter course is being considered but it would lead into a damaging dispute with Tory backbenchers and result in difficult legislative changes.

Successive Home Secretaries have pledged that the rights of husbands to bring foreign wives

to Britain will be retained. The pledge was most recently reiterated during the Commons debate on the 1983 rules, and has been acknowledged subsequently by ministers.

Two large groups of wives have an absolute right to come to Britain to join husbands. Wives of Commonwealth citizens settled in Britain before 1973 have that right, explicitly preserved in the Immigration Act 1971.

Women who were Commonwealth citizens and married before January 1, 1983 to British citizen men have a right to abode in Britain as patrials. That concept was abolished with the Nationality Act, which took effect on January 1, 1983.

To remove the right of those groups would involve retrospective legislation, which would be widely resisted, not least by MPs with foreign wives.

The rules have resulted in a rising number of husbands being refused admission to Britain, but only those from the Indian sub-continent are counted by the Home Office. In 1984, 2,800 husbands from the Indian sub-continent, including Pakistan, applied for entry, 1,300 were accepted and 1,000 were refused initially; other cases were still being considered.

The arguments to be tackled by the Peacock Committee proved more far-reaching than many expected when the committee met for the first time yesterday and released a consultation document for organizations wishing to present evidence.

One of the first questions for the committee is a finding by the last committee on broadcasting, the Annan Commission, that each broadcasting authority should have its own source of revenue.

The consultation notes say that the committee will consider whether that principle is applicable. It will also investigate the benefits and adverse effects of advertising on the

BBC, whether such advertising could be limited, what effect the move would have on proposed cable and satellite television services, and whether there are any alternatives, such as sponsorship.

"These questions are not intended to limit the scope of the representations which the committee is having, but merely to help to direct comments towards the issues which the committee thinks it will need to resolve."

The Peacock Committee: (From left) Sir Peter Reynolds, Mr Jeremy Hardie, Lord Quinton, Professor Alan Peacock, Miss Judith Chalmers, Professor Alastair Hetherington and Mr Samuel Brittan. (Photograph, Dod Miller).

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Good behaviour charter proposed for youth training scheme

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The Government is proposing to involve parents in a "good behaviour" charter as part of a re-structuring of the Youth Training Scheme.

An internal paper by the Manpower Services Commission also suggests that parents might be party to a training contract or agreement, to meet the Government's wish that parents should take a closer interest in children's post-school training.

Under the strict regime suggested in the paper, youngsters who joined the scheme with educational qualifications might receive a higher training allowance than those who had none.

The proposals, drawn up by a working party headed by Mr Geoffrey Holland, director of the commission and comprising of the Confederation of British Industry, the Trades Union Congress and educationalists, are expected to be approved by the nine commissioners next month and will be presented for ratification to Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment.

Youngsters who are successful on the scheme would leave with a ratification demonstrating occupational competence.

The proposed scheme's most potentially controversial aspect is a "training agreement", or contract, that young people would sign, giving them the status of trainee. The agreement is designed to counter criticisms by some unions and pressure groups that youngsters are exploited on the scheme. The agreement is intended to protect their rights.

A model agreement would be drawn up nationally by the commission for use by the managing agents, such as employers or local authorities, who operate the scheme. It would give guarantees on health and safety, pay holiday entitlements and grievance procedure. The paper says: "At the same time the agreement would lay out the responsibilities of the trainee for following the agreed programme, for attendance and standards of behaviour. It would record the trainee's commitment to completing the training."

The scheme, on which the Government expects to be spending £1.2 billion by 1987, will aim to guarantee the offer of a two-year training programme for 16-year-old school leavers and one year's vocational training for 17-year-olds.

Watchdog 'without power'

The Government has come under attack from the Scottish local authority ombudsman for doing nothing positive about his criticism over lack of powers.

These grievances were stated in his report last year and at a press conference in Edinburgh yesterday the ombudsman, Mr Eric Gillet, said he was "very disappointed" with the Government's attitude.

In his report for 1984/5, Mr Gillet emphasized the inability of people who have complained to the ombudsman to enforce remedies, if a local authority resists a finding of maladministration.

Disabled 'excluded from arts'

Disabled people do not get enough attention from arts and heritage organizations and the groups who fund them, a report published yesterday said.

A committee, chaired by Sir Richard Attenborough, to investigate arts and disabled people found that they were too often excluded, either as artists or audience.

The inquiry, established by the Carnegie UK Trust in 1982, wants Government efforts to ensure more access for the disabled people to public buildings.

Arts and Disabled People - Report of a Committee of Inquiry under the chairmanship of Sir Richard Attenborough, (Bedford Square Press £4.95)

Change at British Rail

Quiet chairman ushers in age of efficiency

After the collapse of the Tube strike in London last week, rail unions will find it harder to take industrial action against productivity measures being pressed by British Rail with growing urgency. But the outcome will depend how its chairman, Mr Bob Reid (right), handles the issue. MICHAEL BAILY, Transport Editor, suggests that there is much more to the "quiet man" of BR than meets the eye.



After nearly two years as chairman of British Rail, Mr Reid increasingly resembles the case of Harry Truman.

Few people had heard of Truman until President Roosevelt died in office and Truman stepped into his shoes. He became one of the greatest US presidents.

Mr Reid was Sir Peter Parker's vice-chairman, and few people outside the railway industry had heard of him until the latter retired.

The process of choosing Sir Peter's successor was painfully slow, and it was no secret that Mr Reid was appointed only because the Government could not find a businessman of the quality they wanted to take it on.

Yet Mr Reid, a lanky, low-key career railwayman, at 63, three years older than Parker and lacking his warm extrovert qualities - is not just making a success of the job. He is emerging as unique among post-nationalization railway chairmen.

Over the past 150 years the railway has developed a highly individual culture, a dedicated way of life to those within, a mystery to those without.

The difficulty of penetrating that culture has been one of the crosses successive transport ministers have had to bear. Measures ministers deemed in the public interest but railwaymen found painful or impractical have had more to do with perpetuating the railway way of life were espoused.

Successive chairmen tended to belong to one of the two types: inside from the start, or outsiders hijacked by railwaymen and becoming their advocates.

What is unique about Mr Reid is that he is a railwayman who plays the Governments game. He has not succumbed to the myth. After nearly 40 years on the railway he can look at it with dispassionate eye as "just another business".

Because he has either done or supervised just about every job,

railwaymen cannot pull the wool over his eyes. And he chooses not to pull it over the Government's.

He and Nicholas Ridley, the hard line Secretary of State for Transport, enjoy an unusually good relationship.

Mr Reid has mounted a ruthless drive against inefficiency. About 6,000 salaried staff have gone, saving £80 million a year, and a layer of management has been removed.

There are no divisions any more, only regions and areas. Now he is studying the relationship between regions and board.

Mr Reid has kept a strikingly low profile compared with his illustrious predecessor. That is partly personality, partly a decision to "mark the change".

"A high profile takes up a lot of the chairman's time, and there was a lot of work to be done."

A prime task was making "sectorization", his brainchild, work. Now there is a separate director for Inter-City, freight, commuters, parcels, and provincial services, each responsible for costs and revenue. "It has had a dramatic effect on costs, and concentrated people's minds on serving the customer."

Surprisingly, Mr Reid seems to have as good a relationship with the unions as with the Government. His success in averting disruption in sympathy with the miners was a tour de force.

No doubt that springs from a passionate honesty that underlies his exterior modesty and toughness.

A leader, he says, must be "fair and just and have integrity". He must be "open and honest in how he faces up to problems". He is a great believer in team management.

One must listen, and talk through the problems, and understand them and is a duty to the result. But "you have got to finish up with a decision, and make sure everyone gets on with it."

Hunt for Mengele hot up

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

An American Justice Department team is to visit Paraguay, Argentina and Brazil next month in a search for Dr Josef Mengele, the Nazi war criminal, whose work as a doctor at the Auschwitz concentration camp earned him the name of "Angel of Death".

The team will seek the support of the Government of the three Latin American countries as part of a concerted drive by the United States, West Germany and Israel to capture Dr Mengele.

If he is still alive he is 74. The last positive trace of him was in southern Paraguay in 1982, though there are reports that he was seen in Chile and Brazil in 1983. Rewards totalling more than \$3 million (£2.3 million) have been offered for information leading to his arrest.

Although there have been previous attempts to find him, particularly by Israeli agents,

the efforts being made now amount to the first large-scale search since he fled Auschwitz towards the end of the war.

This intensified hunt, with American, West German and Israeli law enforcement agencies pooling information under an agreement reached this month, seems to be prompted by the 40th anniversary of the end of the war and the inevitable focus on the Nazis and the slaughter of Jews. It is prompted, too, by the simple fact that, given Dr Mengele's age, this is the last chance to capture and arraign him.

Dr Mengele, an early supporter of Hitler, was an SS officer with service on the Russian front when he was assigned to Auschwitz in 1943. He is remembered by survivors as a selector who, with a movement of his thumb, sent thousands either to the gas chambers or into slave labour.

He is also remembered for his grotesque and cruel experiments on twins. He believed they might hold the key to the rapid

development of a blue-eyed master race.

Dr Mengele left Auschwitz around Christmas 1944 and lived for a time in his home town of Gunzburg where his family had, and still has, a farm machinery firm. His first wife and his son live in Freiburg, and his second wife is in Italy.

In 1949, having been publicly accused of crimes at Auschwitz, Dr Mengele fled to Argentina. Ten years later West Germany ordered his arrest and extradition, and he moved to Paraguay where he obtained citizenship in his own name.

He was hunted by the Israeli agents who seized Adolf Eichmann in Argentina in 1960, but a Paraguayan intelligence officer tipped him off and he went into hiding. There is evidence that Dr Mengele made a trip to Spain in 1965.

During his years in South America Dr Mengele has probably had the protection of one, or a number, of Nazi groups. One of them, Kammerdenwerk, was started in 1946, by a former *Lichtwaffe* officer

who became friendly with President Peron of Argentina and with President Stroessner, who has ruled Paraguay since 1954.

Other Nazi groups working in South America include La Arana, also known as Die Spinn (the spider), and Das Reich.

The Mengele trail has now gone cold, perhaps, in part because of the protection of these Nazi groups.

The United States Marshals service has now been assigned to help to find Dr Mengele, and the Justice Department's director of special investigations said recently that he was optimistic that he would be tracked down.

Rewards offered by the Governments of West Germany and Israel, by the Simon Wiesenthal Nazi-hunting centre and by *The Washington Times*, owned by the Unification Church of Sun Myung Moon, amount to \$3.4 million. The rewards are being advertised in a "wanted" notice being published in five South American countries.

Koreans end all square

From David Watts, Seoul

North and South Korea yesterday negotiated each other to a draw at the close of their Red Cross meeting about divided families.

Most of the day was spent in a contest which closely resembled two well-matched boxers, neither fully able to get the better of the other, but each pressing on relentlessly.

Ultimately each side conceded enough to keep contacts open and agree to the next full-dress round of talks being held in Pyongyang on August 27 with a possible working-level meeting on July 15 at Pannun-jom.

Throughout yesterday's session the North insisted on its proposal that "free visits" be initiated between North and South with separated family members from one side being given theoretically unrestricted access to the other to search for family members.

This idea was intended to take precedence over the gradual 1st agenda agreed in 1972 which covers five basic points and started with searches to ascertain whether or not relatives are still alive.

In response, the South stressed repeatedly the import-



Mr Li Cheng Ryn, right, leader of the North Korean delegation to Seoul, and his South Korean counterpart, Mr Lee Yung-Dug, visiting the Korean Broadcasting System offices to see a 1983 film on reuniting divided families.

ance of starting with the assembly of basic information before proceeding to cross-border visits.

The sides have agreed in principle, however, on the exchange of groups of family members and arts troupes for the fortieth anniversary of the end of Japanese colonialism on August 15.

The South has agreed in principle to "free visits", much to the surprise of the North, according to a Seoul delegation adviser.

It was one of two main

concessions by the South, the other being the principle of "comprehensive talks", or taking the agenda as a package rather than proceeding item by item.

The risk is that comprehensive talks will allow the North to put undue stress on the free visits idea, which is already part of the number two item on the agenda.

On the face of it, the real positions of the two sides have not moved substantially in the 12 years since the last meeting, but both sides yesterday ap-

peared reasonably happy with the outcome.

For the North the impression is made of improving contacts with the South, which is all-important if Pyongyang is to make any headway with its ultimate aim of trying to improve relations with the United States.

The South too is able to say that contacts are continuing, as part of its aim for a better working relationship with the North.

'Seoul spring' hot up, page 12

Ozal hails new bridge as sign of Turkey's revival

From Rasit Gurdilek, Ankara

As the ground was broken for the second Bosphorus bridge in Istanbul yesterday on the 532nd anniversary of the Turkish conquest of the city, Mr Turgut Ozal, the Prime Minister, said: "The strains that have arisen between foreign powers over the project are a tribute to the rising creditworthiness of Turkey."

Firing the first dynamite charge, President Evren said the need for speedier communications and the strategic location of Turkey would necessitate more such projects.

He called for the construction of a similar suspension bridge over the Dardanelles to relieve Istanbul's traffic burden.

Thousands of red-and-white balloons were released as he pressed the button, in a ceremony at which a ram was sacrificed and prayers said.

Mr Ozal, speaking before the president, said the naming of the bridge after Sultan Faik Mehmet (Mohammed II), who captured the city was Turkey's debt to history.

Turkey, having recovered from the chaos of five or six years ago to realize such a grandiose project, totally financed by foreigners, "was no longer the sick man of the Bosphorus". By the turn of the century Turkey would have a network of motorways with a

total length of some 1,800 miles.

The second Bosphorus bridge, the fifth longest of its kind in the world, with a span of 1,090 metres, is expected to cost \$551 million (£430 million).

It will have eight traffic lanes. The present bridge was built in 1973 by Cleveland Bridge Engineering, in partnership with a German company.

This time, however, the bid of Cleveland, and its partners was undercut by the rival consortium, which includes three Japanese companies.

A window repair man who looked into the gap between ceiling and roof in July 1984 discovered that one rod had rusted through, and the company which designed the ceiling welded reinforcing metal over the break, he said. But the inspection report made no mention of the fault or the repair and said the ceiling was sound.

The company had no previous experience with ceiling construction, and the ceiling's weight turned out to be some 30 per cent more than planned, Mr Brunner said.

Five children and seven adults were crushed or drowned in the accident on May 9.

President Evren: Call for new Dardanelles bridge.

Death pool fault known a year ago

Uster, Switzerland (AP) - A fault in a suspended ceiling that collapsed on a swimming pool complex this month and killed 12 people was discovered a year ago, district attorney Mr Alwin Brunner said yesterday.

But the construction company that repaired the defects did not tell municipal officials in the Zurich suburb.

First results of the investigation show that chlorine rising from the pools corroded stainless steel rods holding the ceiling to the main roof, Mr Brunner told a news conference.

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Seville turns ruins into assets

From Richard Wigg, Seville

In the gardens of a abandoned 19th century nursery, now in ruins, on the poorer northern side of this city, young lovers and old age pensioners stroll happily in Andalusia's spring sunshine.

They are already enjoying, despite the abundant weeds and briars, the future public park that the Seville City Corporation has been persuaded to acquire under pressure from local "Greens". They had stirred up the neighbourhood to demand that this neglected asset on their doorstep be put to proper use.

Close by the municipality is restoring, and thus saving, Seville's Moorish walls, the one remnant that remains of the city built under Sultan Ali Yusuf in the 12th century.

"We have so many demands on our resources," Señor Francisco Barriomereu, the councillor responsible for town planning and Deputy Mayor, remarks with a sigh.

By deciding to bring the European Symposium on Historic Cities for the first time to Spain, the Council of Europe highlighted the dilemma of southern European countries with a rich heritage of old buildings and historic monuments almost beyond their economic capacity to maintain if they are also modern amenities.

Many of the 500 experts from 21 European countries gathered

in Seville took a realistic view: the rest of Europe, countries like Britain or West Germany, may be able to afford the luxury of old city centres kept as showpiece "museums" but in poorer Spain and Portugal they can survive only if they have functions that meet today's needs.

Referring to Seville's famous and romantic Santa Cruz district, the heart of the old city, Señor Barriomereu attacked what he called "elitist attitudes under the banner of conservation". He explained: "We have to understand and plan the whole city's function. We cannot have two cities: one a museum piece and ignore the rest as something peripheral."

Here as elsewhere in Spain, the problems are aggravated by the need to correct the imbalances created by the speculative expansion of new suburbs during the Franco boom years.

Seville has 520 sites scheduled for redevelopment, especially in the northern districts where old property inhabited by an increasingly elderly or poor population deteriorates, while younger, economically more dynamic elements have moved out to the new middle-class or working-class suburbs.

To help rehabilitate historic city centres like Seville, European governments must, the

symposium decided, reform the existing tax system and land use policies which favour new developments. Such changes could make it cheaper to renovate than to pull down and build anew.

"The tax policies conceived during the economic boom years must be reversed to enable young families to come back and live in the old centres instead of new suburbs," M Jean Paul Lacaze, head of France's National Housing Improvement Agency, told the gathering.

But, after reviewing a decade of efforts to give new life to Europe's historic cities, the symposium decided the large sums required would be forthcoming only if public policies encourage private investment.

Two architects, Mr Charles Wilson, Lancaster's city architect, and Señor Damian Quere of Seville's city planning department, both called for "dynamic conservation", meaning giving new uses to old buildings.

The Briton aroused much interest by giving 25 concrete examples of new uses ranging from London's Covent Garden renovation scheme, now visited by 10 million tourists a year, to the Perch Rock lighthouse, near Liverpool, offering the seclusion of "lighthouse honeymoons".

But the Spaniard aroused opposition from the conservationists.

Court rejects Australian judge's appeal

From Tony Daboulia, Melbourne

A federal court judge in Perth yesterday rejected an appeal by the former Australian Attorney General and High Court judge, Mr Justice Lionel Murphy, against commitment on a charge of attempting to pervert the course of justice.

It has been alleged that Mr Murphy tried to influence the outcome of a trial involving Sydney solicitor, Mr Morgan Ryan, in 1982 and 1983.

Mr Murphy appealed on the grounds that the decision to commit him by a Sydney magistrate involved an error of law; that there was no evidence or other material to justify the making of the decisions; and that the decisions were otherwise contrary to the law.

SYDNEY: The former chief magistrate of New South Wales, Mr Murray Ferguson, lost an appeal yesterday against conviction and a four-year jail sentence for trying to pervert the course of justice.

July date for Hong Kong transition talks

From Mary Lee, Peking

The Sino-British liaison group, set up last week to oversee Hong Kong's transition from British to Chinese rule over the next 12 years, will hold its first meeting in London on July 22 to 25.

Although the agenda was not specified, a British embassy spokesman referred to the signed last December which lists matters for consideration by the group over the first half of the transition period.

These include steps that both countries should take to enable Hong Kong to maintain its foreign economic relations as a separate customs territory; the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade; and action by both governments to ensure the continued application of international rights and obligations affecting Hong Kong.

Angola sabotage claim casts shadow over Paris superpower talks

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

President Reagan, seeking to fulfil the pledge he made last year to establish a "constructive relationship" with the Soviet Union, is re-engaging Moscow in two separate rounds of talks in Europe today.

In Paris Mr Chester Crocker, Assistant Secretary for African Affairs, is to meet his Soviet counterpart, Mr Vladimir Vyevyev, to discuss the spreading turmoil in southern Africa. In Geneva, American and Soviet negotiators open the second round of talks, which began last March on nuclear and space weapons.

US officials have expressed doubts about early progress in either case.

The Paris meeting is part of a process of "periodic consultations" which Mr Reagan proposed in a speech to the UN General Assembly last September, aimed at defusing superpower tensions in critical areas of the world.

Last February, senior US and Soviet officials held talks in Vienna on the Middle East but made no progress. The Soviet delegation refused an American suggestion to discuss Afghanistan. However, a separate meeting on Afghanistan is to be held next month.

The Paris meeting will focus on Mr Crocker's efforts to negotiate a settlement of the long-running Namibia independence issue.

The timing of the Paris meeting is unfortunate for the US as it comes amid disclosures of an alleged South African sabotage attempt at Gulf Oil's installation at Cabinda, northern Angola.

The Soviet Union, which with Cuba strongly backs the Marxist government in Luanda, is expected to make an issue of this incident, which is generally seen as a severe blow to the US policy of a "constructive engagement" with South Africa. The US angered and embarrassed by South Africa's viol-

ation of the American-brokered "Lusaka Accord" on the disengagement of South African forces from Angola, has expressed "deep displeasure" over the incident and asked for a full explanation from Pretoria.

The Paris talks are a minor but important aspect of the diplomatic manoeuvring between Mr Reagan and Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, to test each other's mettle. The two leaders have agreed in principle to a summit.

On the core issue of the Washington-Moscow relationship - the Geneva arms talks - both have said that the first round was "completely fruitless" and have blamed each other for it.

Mr Reagan is determined not to concede Soviet demands that

he give up his controversial Star Wars space defence programme as a price for getting reductions in strategic and intermediate-range weapons.

● GENEVA: Professing readiness to achieve agreements on controlling nuclear weapons, provided the other side showed flexibility, American and Russian delegations arrived here yesterday for the second round of arms talks.

● JOHANNESBURG: South Africa has denied that it was involved in an attempt to sabotage oil installations in Angola's northern Cabinda enclave, as stated on Tuesday by the South African commando captured by Angolan troops last week (Michael Hornsby writes).

Leading article, page 13

President delays decision on keeping Salt 2 going

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

President Reagan is expected to delay a decision until later this year on whether the US will exceed the limits on nuclear weapons set by the 1979 Salt 2 treaty. He is under mounting congressional pressure to keep to the limits.

By law Mr Reagan must submit a report to Congress by Saturday on plans for complying with the treaty. The report is likely to discuss options rather than state a firm decision.

The limits in the treaty, which was never ratified by the Senate at the end of the year, the superpowers have pledged to continue respecting its main provisions.

The President must decide by the autumn whether to exceed the limits when the latest US Trident submarine, the Alaska, begins sea trials. That would put the US above

the Salt 2 ceiling for multi-warhead intercontinental ballistic missiles.

One reason for the probable delay is to give more time to assess the progress of the Geneva arms talks with the Soviet Union. But a series of studies made inside and outside the Administration have concluded that it would be in America's best interests to keep to the Salt 2 limits.

The decision on Salt 2 will mark an important turning point in the history of strategic arms competition. Proponents of keeping to the treaty say that allowing it to lapse would mark the beginning of a process of unravelling the entire arms control system negotiated since the late 1960s. Critics of the treaty say that letting it lapse would force Moscow to negotiate seriously on new limitations.

Israelis tighten grip in Lebanon

From Christopher Walker Marjayom, south Lebanon

It is now clear that next week's final Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon will be an operation conducted in name only, with the Israeli Army attempting to retain indirect control over 150,000 Lebanese citizens inside a security zone which stretches at one point 12 miles north into Lebanese territory.

The extent to which Israel will attempt to retain its influence has been bitterly criticized by some Israeli politicians. It has also prompted Shia Muslim guerrillas to threaten to step up their fight against the South Lebanese Army (SLA), the mainly Christian militia whose 2,000 members will be maintaining control on Israel's behalf.

I was able to watch yesterday as hundreds of Israeli contractors worked against the clock to complete a new infrastructure in the security zone. This included a chain of fortresses hewn into strategic hillsides, a large new detention camp, asphalt roads to an SLA military training centre and hilltop observation posts which Israeli soldiers will apparently continue to use on an ad hoc basis.

Senior Israeli officers refused to spell out the extent to which Israeli troops intend to go on patrolling the buffer zone, but some observers believe that in the early stages after the pullback it will be on a daily basis.

Israeli sources said that only the 150,000 residents of the security zone would be able to pass freely back and forth through the gate and other entry points manned by the SLA. All are due to be issued with identity cards in an operation supervised by Israel.

The Israelis no longer make any secret of the extent to which they control the SLA, and yesterday for the first time, journalists were permitted to watch as an Israeli major trained novice Lebanese tank crews on a strip of rocky countryside north of the Israeli border.

Part of its Israeli-supplied armoury, the SLA has 40 tanks, a mix of veteran Second World War Sherman and Russian-built T34s captured from the Palestinians. Judging by yesterday's erratic performance, the militiamen will require considerably more training to make them effective in combat.

Israeli ministers have made clear that the final stage of the pullback - due to be completed before next Thursday's third anniversary of the war - will be a low key affair conducted without any great ceremony. This is to minimize the national humiliation involved and also to fudge the wide extent to which Israelis will remain operating in Lebanon.

Israel yesterday released 249 of the Lebanese prisoners it is holding at a prison in northern Israel and returned them across the border to Lebanon.



Together again: Abdul Wahab, aged 45, and his daughter Johanara, aged 15, reunited yesterday after being separated for five days by the tidal wave that hit Bangladesh.

Writers give clues to Bonn-Paris relations

From Frank Johnson, Bonn

All that was agreed here yesterday about President Mitterrand's meeting with Chancellor Helmut Kohl at Lake Constance was that things were not back to normal. No one could agree why, or indeed what was the trouble in the first place.

It was accepted that the difference between West Germany and France at the Bonn summit was not about Star Wars, Eureka (the European organization for technological research) or Gatt. It was to do with the French going through one of their periods of doubt about the Germans.

Before the talks, Mr Mitterrand and Herr Kohl visited Herr Ernst Junger, a man aged 90 who lives near Constance. He is the German novelist whose work is enjoying a vogue in France. Perhaps the two leaders wanted a handy symbol if their cultural bonds.

Zimbabwe slashes poll timetable

From Jan Raath Harare

Zimbabwe has enacted highly unpopular legislation which the Government hopes will keep it to its June deadline for elections.

To the wrath of the opposition parties, the absolute minimum pre-electoral period of five weeks has been shortened to 19 days.

It is now possible for Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, to proclaim a polling date in the last week of June, but sources say it is more likely that technical delays will force him to name two days in the first week of July. A later date will not be countenanced, they say.

Since it was forced by hitches in voter registration to drop all hope of a March election, the Government has solidly held out for June.

Yesterday opposition leaders awoke to learn from radio and newspaper reports that a meeting would be held that day at which a variety of changes to the electoral Act would be outlined.

All major parties were represented at the meeting, though none of the leaders was present. Dr Eddison Zvobgo, the Justice Minister, said the parties had asked for another meeting next week.

By late yesterday, none of the parties had formulated a coherent response to the changes.

To achieve them, the Government has wielded a clause in the electoral laws, amended amid surprisingly lukewarm criticism in February, which gives the President power to make laws "as he considers necessary or desirable to ensure that the elections are properly and efficiently conducted".

The new legislation means that parties have a minimum of five days, instead of the two weeks stipulated in the electoral Act, in which to prepare their lists of candidates for nomination day.

Kasparov v Karpov rematch in Moscow

Madrid, (AFP) - Moscow will host the rematch of the world chess championship, between title holder Anatoly Karpov and his fellow Russian Gary Kasparov, from September 2, the president of the International Chess Federation Señor Florencio Campomanes said.

Moscow was also the venue for the initial match between the two men, which was controversially called off in February after a record-breaking 48-game, five month marathon.

That match was of unlimited length, with the winners scheduled to have been the first to gain six victories. This time the two grand masters are likely to meet over either 24 or 30 games.

Antarctic base for Greenpeace

The international environmental group Greenpeace announced plans to set up a permanent base in the wilderness of the Antarctic and declare the whole continent a world park.

A mechanic, doctor, radio operator and scientist will spend winter at the base and carry out scientific work. Mr Roger Wilson, campaign coordinator, said Antarctica was the last true wilderness and was under dire threat from mineral hungry nations.

China pays for football riot

Peking, (AFP) - China's state insurance company is to pay some £28,000 to foreign owners of six cars damaged in a Peking soccer match riot 10 days ago. Claimants include the embassies of Luxembourg, Uganda and Canada, the Peking office of Air France and the Peking bureau of The Times.

TWA for sale

New York (AP) - The board of directors of Trans World Airlines, the fifth largest American air carrier, has voted to put the company up for sale after a federal judge refused to block financier Mr Carl C. Icahn's \$500 million (£480 million) bid for the airline.

Boats burned

St Nazaire (AFP) - Fourteen yachts and launches were destroyed by fire in Arzal port, in north-west France, when an oil storage tank blew up. There were no casualties.

Taba talks

Cairo (Reuters) - Israeli officials arrived for fresh talks on the fate of the Sinai enclave of Taba, with Egypt insisting the dispute be submitted to international arbitration.

Swedish deal

Stockholm (Reuters) - Swedish unions and employers reached agreement on a 3.6 per cent wage rise for 350,000 private sector white-collar staff.

Correction

The number of Turkish soldiers killed in an ambush by Kurdish guerrillas last September was 8, not 80 as printed in a report on May 24.

Trial given first hint of plot to kill Pope

From Peter Nichols Rome

The prosecution in the Pope murder conspiracy trial is taking some consolation from confirmation of a plot of sorts which emerged yesterday from the testimony of one of the accused.

Mr Omer Bagci one of the five Turks on trial, took the stand after Mehmet Ali Agca, the Turkish terrorist who shot the Pope in St Peter's Square on May 13, 1981. But his behaviour in the court has been the opposite of Agca, who announced dramatically both on Monday and Tuesday that he was the re-incarnation of Jesus Christ.

Mr Agca yesterday sought to make clear that he was simply a humble Turk who happened to be working in Switzerland and was treasurer of the Association of Turkish Workers.

He nevertheless confirmed his former testimony that three men he later knew to be terrorists came to his house at night in April 1981 and left a package which he found contained a gun.

He returned the package to Agca in Milan only days before the attempt on the Pope's life. He had no idea how the gun might be used.

Like the other three Turks and three Bulgarians accused with Agca, he was named by the would be assassin as an accomplice, and the prosecution hopes that gradually the rest of the alleged conspiracy will be confirmed in this way.

Agca is the principal prosecution witness, but after his flamboyant behaviour his credibility remains in doubt. Members of the court hope he will calm down.

At the same time, his extravagant references to his visit in prison from the Pope in December 1983 and visions he claims to have described to him are seen as signals to someone Agca thinks can help him. Most of it appears aimed at the Vatican.

The only indication of the Pope's alleged status from comments he made to a Bulgarian delegation celebrating the feast day of Saints Cyril and Methodius.

Speaking in what he thought was privacy, he said only that the trial was the affair of the Italian authorities, that the Holy See had no part in it, and that the Italian judiciary was separate from its political life.

The one satisfied comment so far has come from the lawyer defending Mr Sergei Antonov, the Bulgarian airline official arrested after being denounced by Agca. "Whatever Ali Agca meant by what he said, he was certainly not speaking the truth", the lawyer said.

● BASLE (Reuters) - Mehmet Sener, aged 29, a Turk accused by Agca of having supplied the gun he used to shoot the Pope, yesterday was jailed for five years for smuggling heroin into Switzerland.

Reagan plans reform of 'unfair' tax rates

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

President Reagan yesterday formally sent to Congress his far-reaching plan to reform the nation's tax system, which he described as "un-American, unwise, unwanted and unfair".

The new plan was "clear, simple and fair for all" and would, he contended in a foreword to the 461-page document, "help fulfil America's commitment to fairness, hope and opportunity for all its citizens".

Overall, when measured against the present tax code, the proposals would represent a shift in tax burdens from individuals to corporations. Individual tax rates would be simplified and lowered.

Many corporations would also pay lower basic rates, but would lose many deductions and exemptions used to reduce their tax burden.

The plan would be "revenue neutral", meaning it would raise as much as the present system and not add to the federal budget deficit.

First reaction was largely favourable though lobbyists for industries and businesses that would be affected adversely immediately started marshalling forces for a long and tough battle.

The debate in Congress is expected to last at least the rest of the year. Although the Republican-controlled Senate may be able to enact a new Tax Bill by Christmas, it is expected that the House will need until 1986 to complete its work.

The first Congressional reaction came from Mr Dan Rostenkowski, Democratic chairman of the House ways and means committee, who gave it strong, if qualified, endorsement.

Iraqi warplanes hit cargo ship and two cities

Bahrain (Reuters) - Iraq said its planes hit Tehran and Tabriz in north-west Iran yesterday while a West German cargo ship in the Gulf was struck by an air-fired rocket in an apparent Iranian air raid.

In Baghdad, a military spokesman said Iraqi planes raided Tehran for the second time in five hours and later hit targets in Tabriz, about 44 miles from the Turkish border.

In the Gulf, the captain of the 18,535-ton Norasia Rebecca said the ship was hit by a rocket during an attack by two unidentified planes. He said none of the 21-man crew was hurt.

Iran said on Tuesday it had launched its ninth ground-to-ground missile at Baghdad. It also said Iranian gunners shelled military and industrial centres in 12 Iraqi cities and towns after Iraqi air strikes.

Iraq's official news agency INA said Iranian shelling of the southern Iraqi city of Basra yesterday killed three school girls and wounded 27.

Key points from the proposals

● The number of Federal income tax brackets for individuals would fall from 14 to three - 15, 25 and 35 per cent, the top rate on a joint annual taxable income above \$70,000.

● Personal exemptions to be raised from \$1,040 to \$2,000. ● Standard deductions to be raised from \$2,390 to \$3,000 for individuals and \$3,450 to \$4,000 for couples.

● All mortgage interest on principal residences to remain deductible. Deductions for other personal interest limited to \$5,000 above investment income.

● State and local taxes no longer deductible from Federal income tax. ● Present 46 per cent top corporation rate reduced to 33 per cent.

● Capital gains taxed as ordinary income but with 50 per cent excluded. Rate reduced from 20 to 17.5 per cent.

● Businesses to be allowed less generous write-offs on plant and equipment investment. ● Business deductions for sport, theatre and similar entertainment disallowed; for meals and travel reduced.

● Charitable gifts to remain deductible.

In a televised response to Mr Reagan's nationwide address on Tuesday night, he praised him for "backing his party's tradition as protector of big business and the wealthy".

It enacted more or less intact, the President's plan would amount to the most thorough revision of the tax system since the Second World War. It has already been substantially modified, however.

Brazil's new leader firmly in the saddle

From Patrick Knight São Paulo

A month after the death of Tancredio Neves, President José Sarney seems remarkably secure in the saddle. According to an opinion poll published last week 51 per cent of Brazilians think he is doing a good or very good job, while less than 5 per cent believe he is doing badly.

Senator Sarney is being treated very gently by all but a few politicians, still adjusting to the abrupt change in their prospects. He is also helped by the sudden switch in the centre of attention in Brasilia away from the presidential palace to Congress.

With the ending of enforced loyalty to the parties for which deputies were elected, a process of re-alignment is in progress. The communist parties now claim 10 deputies in Congress, and yet another centre party may be formed.

The mayors of Brazil's cities are to be elected in November by universal suffrage for the first time in many years, giving the parties a rare chance to test their popularity.

The Liberal Front will be facing public opinion for the first time. The rather weak impact of the new party threatened to produce the first ministerial crisis. The Liberal leader and Mines and Energy Minister Senator Aureliano Chaves, had to be dissuaded from leaving the Government to dedicate himself to building up the party.

Senator Aureliano Chaves, the man responsible for nominating Senator Sarney as vice-president, has to be treated carefully, but in filling vacant posts, and listening to advice, the new president has been giving priority to the numerically-stronger Brazilian Democratic Movement (PMDB).

Sarney faces up to test on direct polling

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Meanwhile, the delicate question of direct elections for the presidency has returned to the forefront.

Senator Sarney is seeking a pact between different politicians so that all tendencies can join in preparing a new constitution. But the Democratic Labour Party (PDT) is trying to force the issue of direct elections by presenting a motion to Congress proposing both the drawing up of the new constitution and the holding of direct elections next year.

However, early direct elections would annoy the military, who regard them as a potential threat to the country's stability. In consequence, other political parties are unwilling to take the matter up at this stage.

The vote on this next month will be Senator Sarney's first real test. Senator Lionel Brizola, the Rio de Janeiro governor who leads the PDT, is the only main politician to call publicly for both the new constitution and direct elections, but he might gain the support of the group led by Senator Paulo Maluf, the unsuccessful presidential candidate for the PDS party.

The defeated PDS may split yet again, with those not content with Senator Maluf's leadership re-forming as the Partido Social Democrático, a traditional party dissolved in 1965, which might attract some liberals.

The wave of strikes continues almost unabated and a dispute over how to handle the strikes has broken out between the Labour Minister, Senator Almir Pazzionotto, and the Trade and Industry Minister, Senator Roberto Gusmano. Senator Pazzionotto favours the minimum of government involvement, reflecting the view that the strikes were to be expected, after so long a period of arbitrary rule, and will soon peter out.

Senator Gusmano, reflecting the opinion of some businessmen, that the strikes are political, wants the law to be applied with all its force.

A new strikes law is to be prepared, while the legislation regarding national security, immigration, and the press is also to be modified.

BANGLADESH TIDAL WAVE

Up to 40,000 people dead... 500,000 people homeless... millions of animals killed, and crops destroyed

A massive tidal wave last Friday washed away years of work by Bangladesh's people to claim and cultivate land in the Delta region.

War on Want advisor, Andrew Jenkins, was on board the survey vessel "Anwesha" when the cyclone hit. "At the island of Char Pir Baksh there was nothing left - it was just one mud flat and an awful lot of bodies."

Millions of survivors face hardship. War on Want is channelling emergency relief through our project partners for food, water, clothing and shelter, and we will continue to assist the construction of tidal barriers to protect against future floods.

WE NEED YOUR HELP TODAY
Please send what you can

I enclose a donation of £60 □ £25 □ £15 □ £..... for emergency and long-term work in Bangladesh.

Please tick for receipt ☐



Name.....
Address.....

Please send to:
ROOM 74, WAR ON WANT, FREEPOST
1 LONDON BRIDGE STREET
LONDON SE1 9UT

(no stamp needed), or for credit card donations phone 01-403 2266.



Israel's Lebanon invasion sucked in the US, whose Marines, seen above, arriving and departing, lost heavily. In the last of a series, The Times looks at one of Mr Reagan's gravest crises



only 30 days, but after the assassination of President-elect Bashir Gemayel and the massacre at the Palestinian camps in September, the Lebanese Government called for the speedy return of the peace-keeping forces, and the Marines were drawn into keeping warring factions apart.

A few months later, on April 18, Washington paid the bitter price: A lorry driven by a suicide bomber exploded at the American Embassy, killing 63 people.

The following October another exploded at the Marine base, demolishing the building and killing 219, with 75 wounded and 30 missing. A similar attack by Islamic fundamentalists killed 47 members of the French forces.

Fighting broke out again between Mr Weinberger and Mr George Shultz, Haig's successor. American ships were pounding Syrian positions in the Lebanese mountains. The choice as Mr Robert McFarlane, the National Security Adviser, admitted bluntly last weekend, was between staying in Lebanon and risking war with Syria or pulling out.

And so on February 7 1984 President Reagan ordered the Marines home. It was a bitter defeat for Mr Shultz, for American credibility in the region and, it seemed, for any future hopes of peace.

But, ironically, that very withdrawal has led Washington to turn from the costly Lebanese diversion back to the central issue of an overall Middle East settlement. And the chances for progress seem to have improved.

Some hope despite the regrets

For Washington, Israel, Jordan and even the Palestinians are again looking at the Reagan plan. Launched in September 1982 when it seemed almost irrelevant because of the Lebanon crisis, that plan, with its careful compromises and balance of interests, is still the basis of American policy and is what King Hussein will now be discussing with President Reagan during his current visit.

Washington, while taking a tough stance and vowing never again to get caught between warring factions, is nevertheless cautiously hopeful. Relations with Israel have improved enormously since the departure of Mr Begin. Relations with the Arabs have been restored because of the growing pragmatism of Arab leaders and the realization by Saudi Arabia and conservative states of where their long-term interests lie. And the Russians have been unable to improve their weak position in the area.

The question now is how to coax both sides to sit down together and to find a formula acceptable to Israel to include non-PLO Palestinians. Few here underestimate the difficulties, and there is no real sense of urgency. Sooner or later, the Americans are moving carefully and slowly.

As for Lebanon, the Administration can only shake its head in despair at the endless cycle of violence, asking how long the state it tried so hard to save from its own citizens can now survive.

Moscow is kept on the sidelines

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Three years after President Brezhnev warned the United States not to use the crisis in Lebanon to intervene with American armed forces, and failed to follow up the threat, the Soviet Union remains politically on the sidelines in the Middle East.

But the Kremlin, now - four years after the crisis - has been the conflict between its desire to frustrate American ambitions in the region and its overriding need to avoid direct superpower confrontation. It has urged caution on Syria - much to President Assad's annoyance - and has sought to patch up internal divisions within the PLO while continuing to support Mr Yasser Arafat as the PLO leader.

The Soviet attitude to the current Soviet dilemma over the past three years has been the conflict between its desire to frustrate American ambitions in the region and its overriding need to avoid direct superpower confrontation. It has urged caution on Syria - much to President Assad's annoyance - and has sought to patch up internal divisions within the PLO while continuing to support Mr Yasser Arafat as the PLO leader.

Analysts trace the current Soviet dilemma to June 1982, when Mr Brezhnev attacked "criminal genocide" in Lebanon and warned Mr Reagan not to send American troops to the area as part of a multinational force. Mr Brezhnev failed to react when Mr Reagan ignored this warning, but in September put forward a six-point peace plan - including a PLO-run Palestinian state - which remains the basis of Soviet policy.

After the Mr Brezhnev's death Khabibullah was one of the first foreign leaders to be received by Mr Andropov, the new leader, who warned moderate Arab states not to become involved in American settlement proposals. Under Mr Chernenko, in 1984, Mr Gaidar Aliyev was sent to Damascus to discuss both Lebanon and the Gulf war, but when President Assad came to Moscow in October Soviet-Syrian differences on both questions were so sharp that luncheon speeches by Mr Assad and Mr Chernenko were not published.

Concluded

Sadder but wiser Reagan leaves Lebanon to stew

From Michael Binyan Washington

The Israeli invasion of Lebanon was the greatest foreign policy crisis of the Reagan Administration, with devastating repercussions both at home and in the Middle East. It threw American policy into disarray, provoked a public furore over the bombing of Beirut, further strained superpower relations and led directly to the resignation of Alexander Haig, the mercenary Secretary of State.

Yet three years later, the invasion is all but forgotten here. After horrendous casualties, the Marines have been withdrawn from their short-lived peace-keeping efforts in Lebanon. The ugly images of Israeli bombing strikes have disappeared from the television screens. The Americans have given up attempts to mediate between warring factions. And a disillusioned administration has pulled itself out of the Levantine quagmire and decided to let that sorry country stew in its own juice.

Today's aloofness is the result of the bruising American involvement in the political and military battles before and after the invasion. Lebanon has been a salutary lesson for Washington, as it has been for both the Arabs and the Israelis. It has made Mr George Shultz, who succeeded Mr Haig, wary of again involving himself and his country in the turbulence of the region and of risking American credibility.

There was no such caution in June 1982. For weeks before the invasion Washington had been warning Israel it would not support a military thrust northwards to suppress the Palestine

Liberation Organization once and for all - although Mr Ariel Sharon, the Defence Minister, had made his plans quite clear to the Americans at least six months earlier (something Mr Sharon is now at pains to deny). "Israel will go it alone if it carries out such a plan," Mr Haig warned Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister. But as soon as the fighting began, Washington was drawn in willy-nilly, if only to try to restrain Israel and disprove angry Arab states charges of American collusion.

On June 6 the White House asked Philip Habib, the State Department Middle East specialist, to negotiate a ceasefire, and two days later he arrived in Jerusalem. Begin gave him a personal message for President Assad of Syria, asking the PLO artillery in the Syrian lines to be pulled back to the 40 kilometre mark. But as Habib was in Damascus delivering this and a second message, the Israelis attacked and destroyed Sam-6 sites and shot down 23 Syrian MiGs.

Administration split over invasion

The attack, Haig concluded later, "changed the whole character of the conflict", and was the signal for a "dramatic widening" of the war. Meanwhile the battle for Beirut was being fought out on America's television screens - to the fury of the Israelis, who saw a dangerous weakening in American public support for their tough line. The administration itself was divided in its support for the Sharon operation, by now clearly far more extensive than the "peace for Galilee" plan suggested.

Haig insisted the Israelis had to be given full support in the attempt to rid Lebanon of the PLO, and the Palestinians, mercilessly pounded in Beirut, were not to be let off the hook. He persuaded President Reagan that Washington had to veto a United Nations cease-fire resolution. The President rebuffed Mr Brezhnev, who had sent a message on the hotline. But Mr Casper Weinberger, the powerful Defence Secretary, was a tough opponent of Israel's actions, and saw the danger of a full-scale Syrian-Israeli war.

The confusion in Washington was compounded by conflicting messages from Jerusalem, leaks to the press and the Administration's intense vexation with Begin. Haig, Habib and others shuttled back and forth to little effect as Haig later said, Begin was not going to let slip the opportunity to finish off the PLO just because of opposition in Washington.

In the midst of all this, Haig resigned, claiming that his position was being undercut by feuding and confusion. "The constant bugaboo of the Administration's foreign policy", he was left still to control operations, and by July 2 claimed that he had the breakthrough he was waiting for: agreement on the evacuation of the PLO from Beirut and the setting up of a western peace-keeping force.

The immediate crisis was over, but another was developing. In the Lebanese cauldron, the Marines quickly became targets for the gunmen and the suicide bombers. What was left of the Lebanese Government was collapsing, and with it Washington's policy of attempting to build peace on an agreement negotiated between Israel and Beirut.

A contingent of 800 marines had landed in Beirut on August 25, 1982, where they joined French and Italian forces in supervising the evacuation of the PLO.

The French, who had pressed hardest for a role in Lebanon, were the first to arrive - and the last to leave 18 months later. The British, the smallest contingent, arrived last and left first.

President Reagan promised that the Marines would remain



Casualties being brought out of the wreckage after the October 1983 blast, which killed more than 200 Marines.

Agencies say EEC effort too little too late

Famine airlift to save 500,000

From Gill Lusk, Khartoum

A big airlift of EEC food and medical aid to the famine-devastated west of Sudan started yesterday, part of a desperate attempt to save at least some of the hundreds of thousands of Sudanese whom the United Nations and other agencies say will die of hunger no matter what steps are taken.

Supplies will be distributed by relief agencies including the Save the Children Fund, Oxfam, the Red Cross and the French Médecins sans Frontières. "About half a million people are at risk of dying of starvation in the Darfur region," Mr Brian O'Neill, who is in charge of the EEC airlift said yesterday. "But some agencies say one million."

Planes will leave twice a day for the three main towns in Darfur: Nyala, el-Fasher and el-Geneina, close to the Chad border. The first C130 Hercules has been supplied by the Belgian Airforce, and two West German C160 Transals are due today. Dates are being arranged for the Royal Air Force to take part, and aircraft are also expected from the Italian and French governments, which have already made individual flights.

Airlifts of supplies other than emergency medicines are much criticized by some aid agencies, which argue that the £2,800 an

hour cost of flying time could be better used to buy food and supply cheaper road transport. "This kind of dramatic response is totally uncalled for," said one agency representative. "What is needed is food in large amounts, and you cannot carry that by plane."

The EEC says, however, that the airlift will provide about 20 per cent of the region's food - mainly dried skimmed milk powder and vegetable oil - as well as urgently needed sorghum and millet seeds for planting next month. "It is an expensive way, but it will save a lot of people who would otherwise die," Mr O'Neill said. An emergency programme backed by the EEC to get the country's rail system working still has priority, he said, adding that airlift funds came mainly from the defence ministries of the countries concerned.

Many also object that the highly visible and much-publicized airlifts help to disguise road or rail delays that would not have mattered if donors had acted faster. They also give the impression of more happening than is the case, since planes can shift only 20 tons at once. Major food donors, including the UN World Food Programme and the EEC have been

criticized for their delay in responding to the emergency. "We're a long-term development organization," the EEC head of mission, M Jean-Paul Jessé, told The Times. "We're a bit clumsy for this type of operation."

Food is reaching Darfur at a rate of only 200 tons a day instead of the scheduled 1,000, according to one donor source. Most is still supplied by the US Agency for International Development, the government body initially praised for its rapid and efficient grain deliveries. But USaid has now come in for growing criticism as cargoes have failed to reach the worst affected regions, Darfur and Kordofan, on time.

Originally critical of airlifts, the US is now showing interest in joining in. Libya has also joined, supplying four Russian Antonovs which have been sitting for days at Khartoum awaiting pilots and an organization into which they can be fitted. Since they can carry only 3-4 tons against the Hercules' 20, their purpose is not clear.

Tens of thousands of tons of cereal are expected to arrive at Port Sudan in coming weeks. But with rains making much of the country's network of dirt tracks impassable, for hundreds of thousands the help will arrive too late.

Nicaragua claims Reagan planning more sanctions

Managua (Reuter) - The United States is preparing more economic sanctions to support its Nicaragua trade embargo, according to a Managua leader, and direct military intervention remains its "final option".

"The United States has [prepared] more economic measures against Nicaragua. One of them would be to ban [US] subsidiary companies from dealing with us. Another would be to declare us in default of our debt", Señor Bayardo Arce, of the ruling Sandinista party's nine-man national directorate, said yesterday.

Nicaragua's foreign debt totals more than \$4.2 billion (about \$3.4 billion), roughly a third owed to US banks.

Señor Arce said the embargo formed part of US policy which could lead to direct intervention to oust the leftist Sandinistas. "It is Reagan's ultimate option", he said.

President Reagan announced the embargo on May 1, saying that the Nicaragua Government constituted an "unusual and extraordinary threat to the national and foreign policy of the United States".

It included, however, no ban on subsidiaries of US firms in third countries from selling their products to Nicaragua.

GENEVA: Most delegates in the 90-nation council of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), which yesterday met to consider Nicaragua's complaint against the embargo, disagreed with the US delegate, Mr Peter Murphy, that it was justified by national security reasons.

He said GATT was not the forum for debating political and security issues. "GATT is a trade organization, and has no competence to make judgments on such matters."

Señor Orlando Solorzano, Nicaragua vice-minister for External Trade, said the US was "undermining our right to exist as a sovereign country", while the EEC, and the Nordic countries stressed caution and discretion in applying any such sanctions measures.

UN chief at Cuba's Youth Isle

Havana (Reuter) - The United Nations Secretary-General, Javier Pérez de Cuellar, on the second day of his visit to Cuba, flew yesterday to the Isle of Youth where some 10,000 students from developing countries attend college.

Official sources said they expected he would be joined by Dr Fidel Castro, the Cuban leader, on the small island, which foreign critics have described as an indoctrination centre.

Señor de Cuellar was due to tour the "internationalist" colleges, where youngsters mainly from poor African countries receive free education, and then lunch with Dr Castro before returning to Havana.

The two men talked for about four hours on Tuesday night, touching on the problems of southern Africa and Angola, where Cuba has some 25,000 troops stationed, and Central America, official sources said.

Señor Pérez de Cuellar has said that he will try to persuade the US and Nicaragua to resume direct talks in Mexico when he returns from his brief Caribbean tour next week.

Diplomats said his visit here was recognition of the fact that no overall peace in the region can be obtained without consulting Cuba, which supports leftist Nicaragua with several thousand civilian workers and military advisers.

There will be little time for in-depth talks as, on his return from the Isle of Youth, Señor Pérez de Cuellar is due to turn to Old Havana, visit the UN office here and then attend a performance of the Cuban National Ballet.

Cuban sources said, Dr Castro would probably take his guest to one of his country retreats today for a full day of private discussions.

Currency crackdown by sagging Guinea

From Richard Everett Conakry

Guinea has banned residents from holding foreign currency in a move to stop currency trafficking and to limit a black market that accounts for 80 per cent of the country's commercial activity.

Guineans and foreigners must deposit funds in one of two special banks and may only use the money abroad. Guinea is getting ready to undertake the difficult reforms necessary to salvage its sagging economy.

A senior official said the Civil Service may be cut by up to 70 per cent in the next few years to streamline the overstuffed and inefficient administration. The official, who works in the Ministry of Administrative Reform and Civil Service and asked not to be identified, said the Civil Service, which numbers about 80,000 employees, is to be reduced to around 25,000 by the end of 1987.

Officials are reluctant to discuss such figures publicly, as they reflect the draconian measures necessary to reform the administrative and economic systems inherited from the previous government.

Just over a year ago, a group of Army colonels took over the country in a bloodless coup one week after the death of President Sekou Touré. The US following heart surgery. The soldiers promised to restore human rights, which were ignored during the bloody and repressive Sekou Touré regime, and to liberalize the economy, which is in ruins after 26 years of highly-centralized planning characterized by corruption, incompetence and nepotism.

Human rights were quickly restored and earlier this month the Government said it would release from prison 31 people connected with the former regime.



President Conté: Gradual approach to reforms.

However, no big steps have been taken to alleviate the economic problems. The International Monetary Fund has called for large cuts in the Civil Service, privatization of many of the 70 or so state-owned industries, and a devaluation of up to 600 or 700 per cent of the country's inconvertible currency, the syli.

The Government has agreed in principle to the measures, but in return, has demanded "support measures", such as standby loans. It has yet to indicate a timetable for implementing the reforms.

In a speech marking the first anniversary of the coup, President Lansana Conté said the reforms were necessary but needed to be implemented gradually in conjunction with efforts to promote local and international private investment. Otherwise the measures "would have a destabilizing effect on our country", particularly in urban areas like Conakry.

President Conté strengthened his position in December in a Cabinet reshuffle that scrapped the post of Prime Minister and reduced the size of the Cabinet and the ruling Military Council for National Redress.

Food aid for Ethiopia rots in Djibouti

Djibouti (Reuter) - Food aid for starving Ethiopians is piling up and rotting in Djibouti because neighbouring Ethiopia has failed to send enough railway wagons, railway sources said yesterday.

The daily train on the jointly run railway line to Addis Ababa was hauling up to 10 wagons of food aid instead of the normal 40 because Ethiopia was not

returning the wagons, the sources said. A huge backlog was piling up.

About 35,000 tonnes of food have been stored in Djibouti since March because of transport problems. Rain at the end of April damaged part of a consignment of 2,000 tonnes of food from the European Community.

grain, which was stored in the open, were been sent to Paris for tests to see if it was fit for human consumption.

According to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia needs 100,000 tonnes of food aid a month. Most aid is sent by ship to the ports of Assab and Massawa, but Djibouti has also been used because of the rail link.

Mr Harilaos Florakis, Secretary-General of the pro-Greek Communist Party of Greece (KKE) called for the establishment of "a democratic government, relying on progressive forces co-operating on an equal footing, and... a common programme". He criticized the Socialists for failing to bring about real change, after four years in power.

He denied that the KKE would "subsidize" the Socialists with votes to secure victory in what appears to be a close race with the conservative - New Democracy Party.

The Greek Communists proposed last night a government alliance with the Socialists after next Sunday's general election to guarantee "genuine change" in Greece.

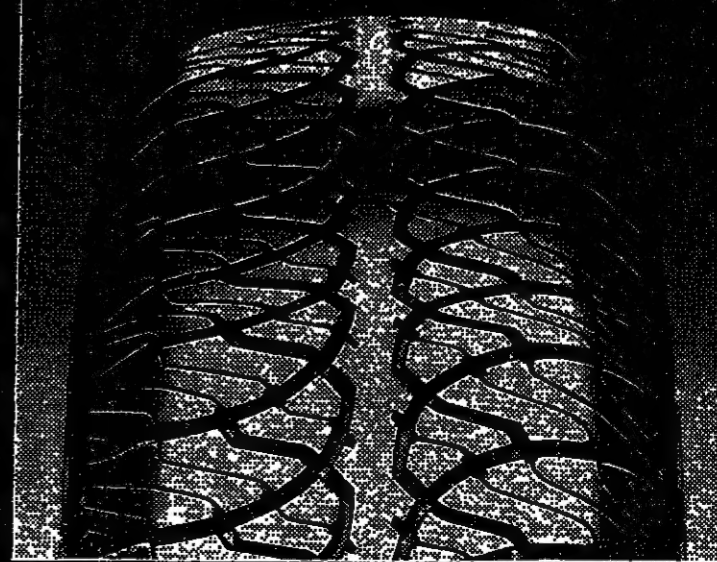
Mr Florakis said the "unfair" voting system favoured big parties. He denied that the KKE would "subsidize" the Socialists with votes to secure victory in what appears to be a close race with the conservative - New Democracy Party.

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LEADING THE WORLD IN TYRE TECHNOLOGY

GOODYEAR

ow is kept
sidelines

crackdown
ing Guinea



Noble obsession with the waters of sacrifice



men, women, children, and "White Rose" of Stalingrad. *Against the Day* is a novel that, through its title, suggests that it might be considered the war novel of our time. It is a novel that has longed since for its Russian staple. As a basic scene is the Battle of Stalingrad itself, symbolizing so much about the war, for both East and West. Yet *Against the Day* actually shows us the fighting in close-up, in the last days of the war, as the resistance of the city of war Koyt Yousangra chimes around the bombing of Dresden at *Stingertown Five*, and surveying the same atmosphere of heightened awareness and a sense of the basic premises of the war being knocked away.

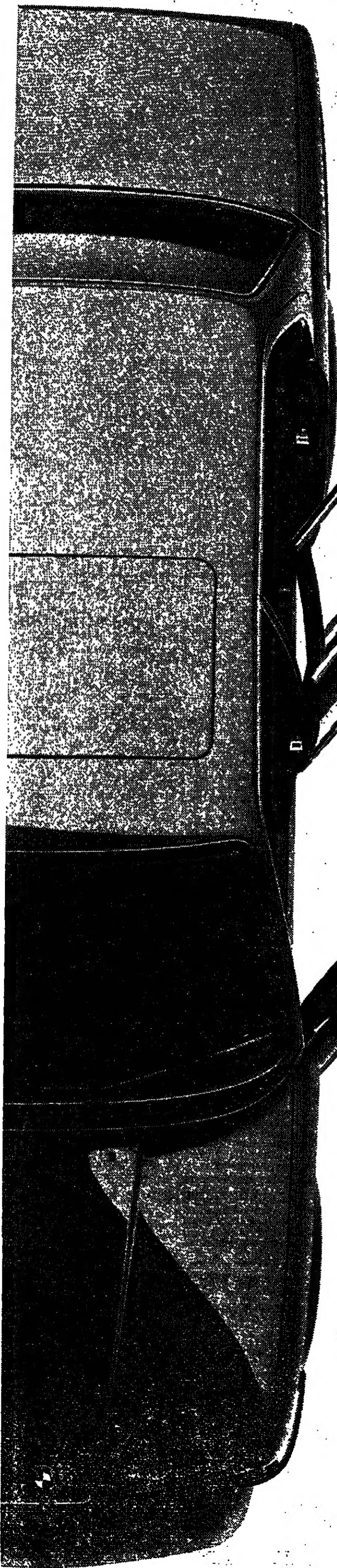
As *Against the Day* is the conclusion of the play to date, it is an out and out survey of the war and of their situation, and survey their position with the

questions the implications of war, and evocations of the future grown out of the war in which victory heightens belief in the perfect strategy, order is combined with peace and sophistication with progress.

There are places where the play becomes overloaded and unclear - the speech at the end only overstates what has already been well said - but it is moving and intelligent. Stephen Urwin's turn direction brings out the shift in style and mood, timing humour with precision, balancing detachment with intimacy, and conveying the play's controlled but passionate message: that "individuals" lives can change to accommodate war, as a world we could change to prevent it.

Sarah Hemmings

WHAT'S STOPPING YOU GETTING INTO A BMW 3 SERIES?



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Many people are surprised to find that a BMW 3 series can cost less than a mass produced car.

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According to another study, the 316 loses value at a rate of 7.07 pence per mile. A typical mass produced car loses its value at 9.37 pence per mile.

Multiply that by 45,000 miles and you can see how the initial extra price of a BMW soon disappears.

DRIVING IS MORE FUN THAN STEERING.

Nobody of course buys a BMW just to lower their motoring costs. They choose them because BMWs are one of the few cars that are tautly engineered as driving machines.

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Certainly, if you are planning to buy a car in our price range, it must make sense to try a BMW.

Now you know how little there is stopping you.

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2 DOOR ☐ 4 DOOR ☐ CABRIOLET ☐

(Mr, Mrs, Miss, etc.) Initial Surname

Address

(Town/City)

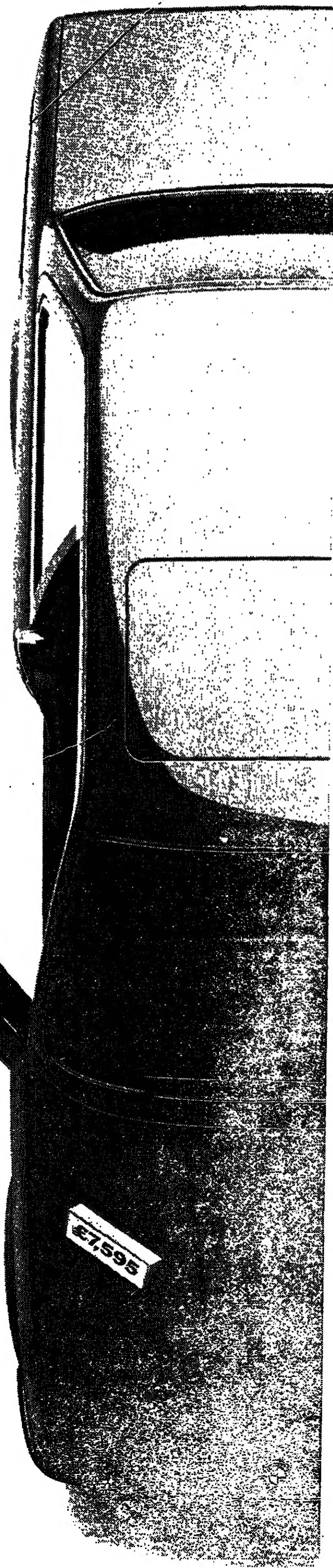
(County) (Postal Code)

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SPECTRUM

The invisible policemen

To the Special Branch, all publicity is bad publicity. Last week the men and women who operate in a sometimes shadowy world remained diplomatically silent when a House of Commons select committee investigating their methods announced its findings. The majority report, which said there was no cause for public concern, was condemned by the Labour leadership as "a complete cop-out". And a minority report called for an independent commission of inquiry into Special Branch activities.

Two years ago one of the Special Branch's most significant anniversaries was marked by a special dinner. Senior ministers and politicians were among the guests, but the evening generated little press coverage. Scotland Yard's Special Branch was happy to celebrate its 100th birthday quietly.

This oldest and largest specialist CID team in the Metropolitan Police, or any other mainland force, is not unlike *Alice in Wonderland's* Cheshire Cat. Sometimes you see it. Sometimes you don't. And when you can't see it, you wonder where it is and what it is doing.

The public persona is represented by those well-groomed, restless men who hover behind Mrs Thatcher during television interviews outside Number 10. Each is a personal protection officer. In the words of one former prime minister: "He's the man who shoots the man who shoots me".

The Branch is also on public

The Times Profile: The Special Branch

view at Heathrow Airport in a less glamorous role monitoring passengers. Officers stand discreetly near immigration officers as passports are scrutinized, checking movements against a Port Suspect Book covering a miscellany of individuals.

About 73 officers are involved in airport or port functions, which include a national unit to expedite orders under the Prevention of Terrorism Act. Another 67 are engaged in protection duties. The most recent figures for Branch manpower put its strength at 379 officers. Where are the rest?

Many are undoubtedly following in the footsteps of the original handful of officers formed in 1883 as the Special Irish Branch to combat Fenian attacks. The Branch has retained a specific role in tackling Irish terrorism throughout mainland Britain ever since - and also combats international terrorism within London.

Others are fishing in the often murky waters of subversion or sabotage. When the Fenians were defeated in 1888 the "Irish" was dropped from the title and there was a suggestion "political" might be added instead. Cautious counsels prevailed, although critics maintain that the Branch has become a political police in all but name.

Certainly it has spread its attentions wide. In 1905 Detective Constable Herbert Finch, fluent in Russian and German, hid a curfew to evade drop on Lenin and 20 comrades in North London at the start of a fascination with the Communist Party which has never ceased. In the 1930s Branch officers reported to the Home Office on the activities of Sir

Oswald Mosley and his followers after infiltrating the British Union of Fascists. A unit of officers now follows the fortunes of the National Front and splinter groups.

This morning Branch cars, not normally traceable at the registration computer at Swansea, could be monitoring an Eastern bloc diplomat trying to travel unnoticed beyond the permitted radius around London. A report might be on its way to the Director of Public Prosecutions at the start of an espionage case. It is the Branch, not MI5, who make arrests or prepare cases for trial.

There will also be a small group of young officers finding their feet in the strange world that centres on the 18th and 19th floors of the Yard. They are this year's intake to the Branch, recruited several months ago and working their way through a probationary first year. They were culled from candidates recommended by senior officers all over London following a circular sent out by Deputy Assistant Commissioner Colin Hewitt, who heads the Branch. No other active detective team has such a high-ranking officer in command.

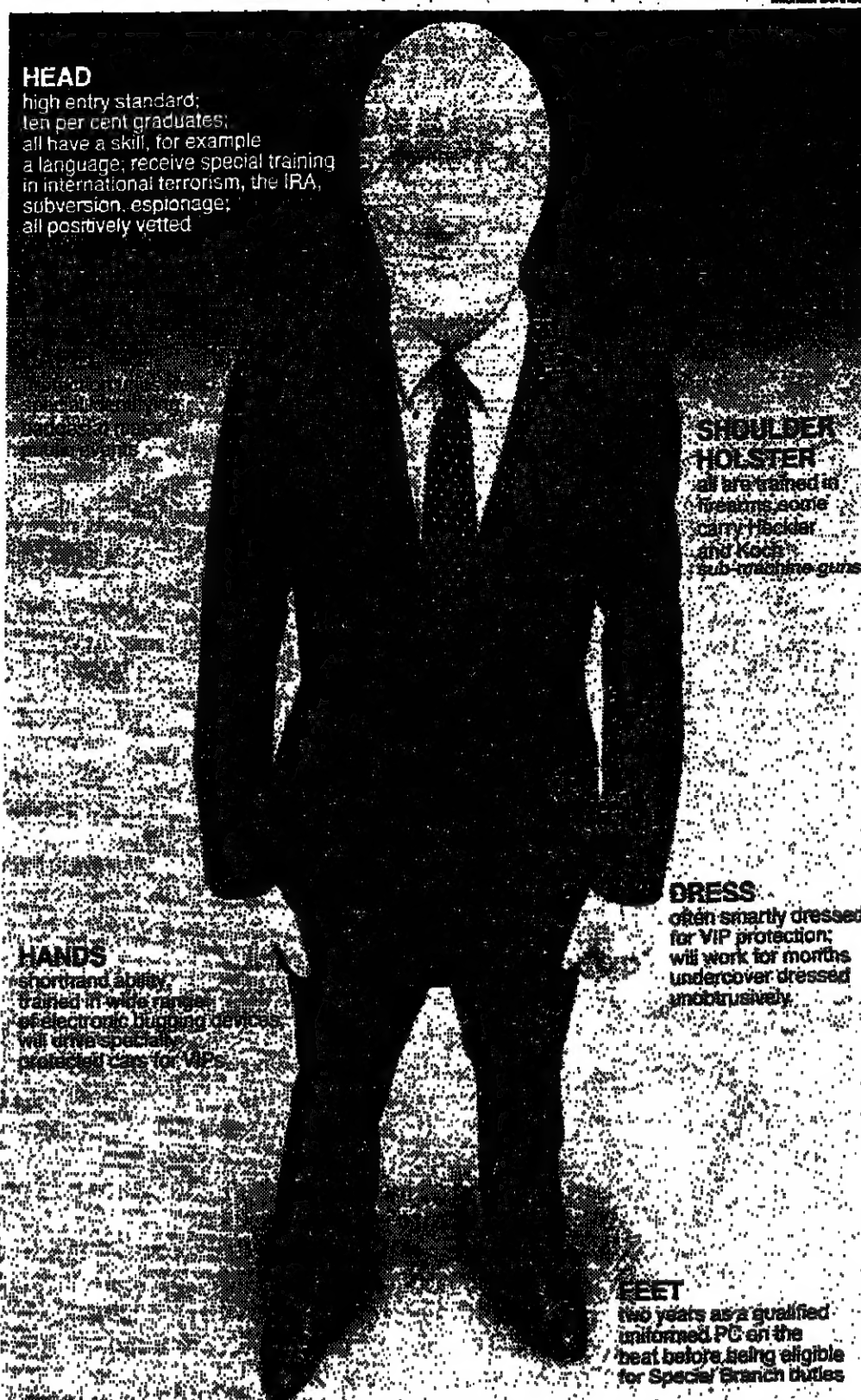
A ideal candidate would be 23 to 25, a uniformed constable with two years' experience as a qualified officer. Mature and able, he would also need a reasonable level of literacy and political "awareness".

Literacy is regarded as a prerequisite for a job where a constant flow of reports is involved. Political sensitivity is needed to assess the significance of events or incidents. A particular skill such as a language or shorthand is also considered valuable.

Candidates must be prepared to work at Heathrow at some time in their career and accept firearms training since protection duties are a large commitment for the department. The Branch guards the Prime Minister, former premiers, key ministers and all foreign ministers and heads of state or government visiting Britain.

Applicants are positively vetted by a Home Office unit and face a written examination plus interview. The examination tests general knowledge - to the standard of a quality newspaper reader - vocabulary and comprehension.

One recent exam paper, comprising 20 sections, asked the meaning of initials such as WHO and COSE, what sport is played at the Orange Bowl, what was Eric Hobsbawm's connection between a series of words including "argent" and "pules" and the correct meaning of turpitude.



HEAD

high entry standard: ten per cent graduates; all have a skill, for example a language, receive special training in international terrorism, the IRA, subversion, espionage; all positively vetted

SHOULDER HOLSTER all are trained in handling some carry-flicker and Glock sub-machine guns

DRESS often smartly dressed for VIP protection; will work for months undercover dressed unobtrusively

FEET two years as a qualified uniformed PC on the beat before being eligible for Special Branch duties

Man in a pinstripe: the skills of the Special Branch

The candidates who get through selection to begin a probationary year are regarded as among the brightest officers of their generation. Ten per cent of the Branch hold degrees, slightly higher than the force average. Ten per cent are female and the Branch has up to half a dozen black officers, higher than any other area of CID.

Many recruits are the products of public school or other private education. They are also notable for a level of "social adroitness" which will fit them for protection duties, or the Establishment atmosphere of the Security Service.

One senior officer with experience of the Branch said: "They are policemen but they like the mystique. They are of a high standard and socially adroit, fitting in anywhere. They are happy to be working there when they would be better off from a rank point of view outside."

Before starting work, the new officer attends a two-week initiation course - held in the department's own classroom - on terrorism, the IRA, the Official Secrets Acts and the "acquisition of intelligence related to public order". In the first year new officers undergo firearms training and attend the general CID course run by the Yard for new detectives.

Later there will be special courses. The Branch is educated in the problems of terrorism, subversion, espionage and sab-

otage with the help of the Security Service. Much of the training is based on case histories and experience acquired working for more senior officers.

At the end of his first year, after being shuttled round the Branch, the new officer will be assigned to one of the seven squads which make up the £15 million a year department.

It is a self-sufficient world within the Yard where, with a built-in career structure, officers can stay for 20 or 30 years. Previous graduates of the Branch include the new secretary general of Interpol, Raymond Kendall, the Chief Constable of Surrey, Brian Hayes, and the Deputy Commissioner at Scotland Yard, Peter Imbert.

Those who stay become part of a professional life where the principle of "the need to know" is a guiding ethic and the art of gaining information a key skill. Other detectives cultivate informants for details of crime but the Branch man is taught to cultivate his informants for all manner of specialist data.

A considerable amount of material comes from local and central government agencies, despite public pronouncements about confidentiality. There will often be an official prepared to relax the rules.

Technical aids include telephone taps, electronic bugs and surveillance. There is also the straightforward inquiry, where a Branch man is a "CID" officer checking a burglary or making "discreet inquiries" about a neighbour.

Much has been made and denied of alleged Branch burglaries on targets such as union officials.

On some Branch operations, involving terrorism or counter-espionage for example, the methods to be used are balanced against the threat posed. However, it is said that MI5 requests for getting some information have been turned down by the Branch. Senior officers maintain that the delicate art of subversion is a matter for the Security Service as much as possible.

There has also been argument within the Branch about restrictions and protests that the world outside is not a "girls' school". Certainly no one held back some years ago when building work at the Soviet Trade Delegation in Highgate provided the opportunity for some adroit bugging and eavesdropping after a Branch superintendent recruited the builders.

But where does all the information go? A considerable amount is collected for the Security Service, who make specific requests or, for example, receive reports on some passengers at Heathrow. Although Branch officers pool-pool suggestions of enormous records, the department keeps its own registry and employs many of its 100 civilian staff in that area.

In 1974 the Branch records included an index of 1.1 million names, of which a third were accompanied by files. Each of the names was included on the basis of one of 27 "areas of interest". The figures were produced for a computerization programme, now complete, which forecast a rise to 1.4 million names by this year.

The estimate was made before the rise of large-scale public order problems - which the Branch assesses for its uniformed colleagues - the threat of civil disobedience and key industrial disputes like the miners' strike. The Yard will not comment on the current size of the records. But, whatever the figures, no one except Mr Hewitt has access to everything.

"I would not accept we are a political force," said one officer, "but people will always say it. We have got to be political in some respect because we do pick up the political importance of events which other people don't. If you were in the Communist Party you would consider us a political police but they have always been considered the most subversive party... although they are in fact highly conservative."

The Branch keeps itself to itself. Almost every London police squad and organization has a specially designed tie. Not the Branch. But, discreet as ever, an internal competition is underway to find a suitable emblem for cufflinks. How about Alice's curious cat?

Stewart Tendler

Seeds of success in Japan

One out of every seven foreign companies which attempts to trade in Japan eventually pulls out according to Japanese government statistics. Many more are deflected by trade barriers and difficulties of culture and language.

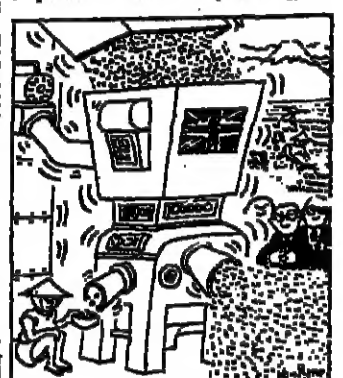
The Japan External Trade Organization, dedicated to encouraging foreign involvement in the country, says there is no such thing as a quick return. Success means having between five and 10 per cent of a particular market, suggests JETRO, and few companies achieve it in less than three years.

The attempt by the Japanese Prime Minister, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, to counter the country's huge trade surplus by persuading each consumer to buy \$100 worth of foreign goods illustrates the problem. The Japanese remain adamantly patriotic.

According to a poll this week in the prestigious national daily, *Asahi Shimbun*, four out of five people could not think of any foreign goods they wanted. Two-thirds had not purchased any imports since April and 75 per cent would prefer to buy domestic products anyway.

It is one balmage for multinationals like Coca-Cola and Rank Xerox. It is another for smaller fry like Gimson's Sortex which make sorting machines for agricultural produce from peas to peanuts at Bow, in London's East End.

In the 1940s, they produced a sorter for their gardening seeds business. They went into the Japanese market 23 years ago.



Their machinery colour sorts materials down to the size of sesame seeds by measuring reflected light electrically. Off-colour materials are pneumatically ejected. Small seeds are sorted at 1,000 per second.

Persuading the Japanese on the need to sort their high quality rice was difficult. According to Herbert Fraenkel, technical adviser at Sortex: "Rice prices were government-controlled so there was little incentive for rice producers to bring in sorting. Towards the end of the 1960s a semi-free market in rice was established and that gave us a real opportunity."

There was then no Japanese rival so Sortex had a clear field. They also wisely went to the Marubeni Corporation, one of the half dozen largest trading houses, to handle sales.

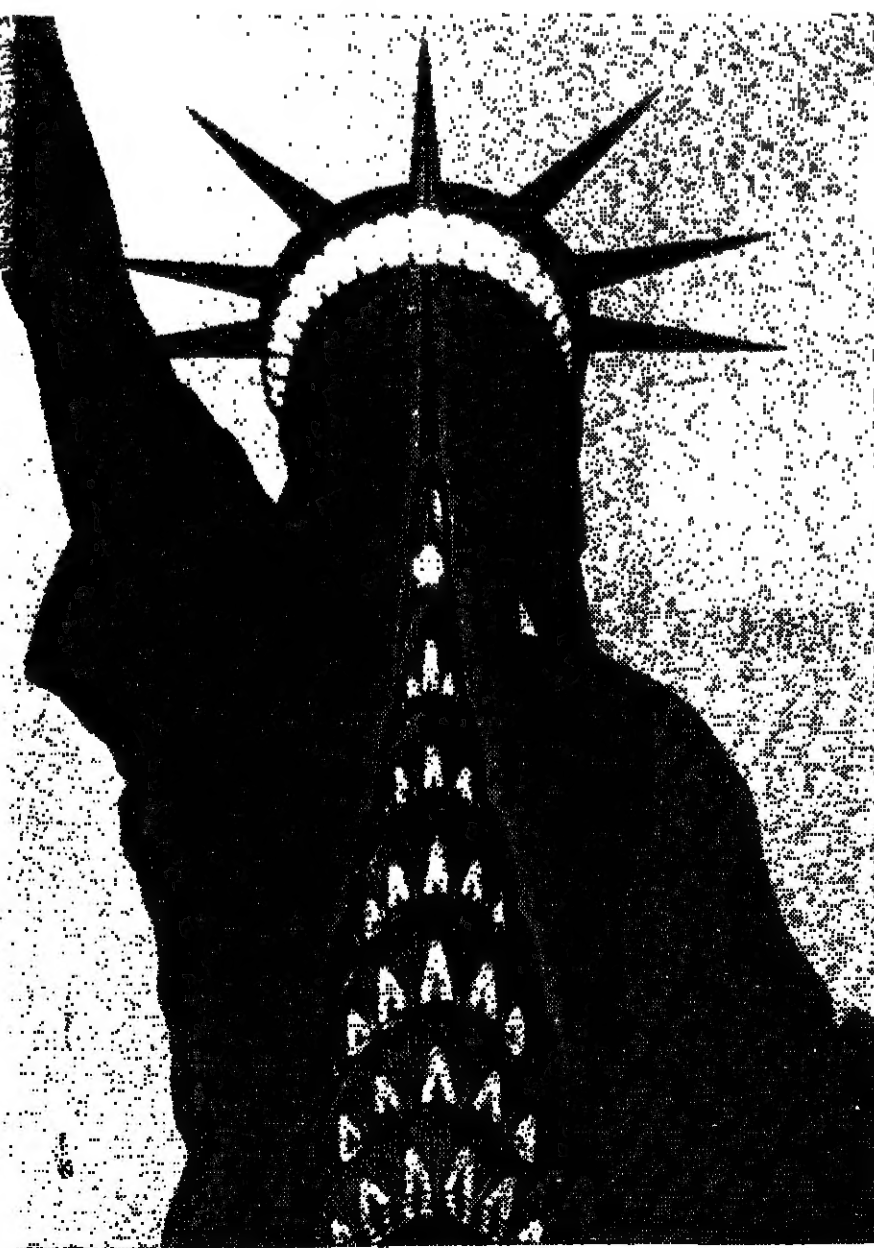
Such trading houses are not cheap when it comes to their slice of the selling price. But Sortex had no problems with import documentation, port clearances and the like.

Sortex has between five and 10 per cent of the Japanese market, according to marketing director Anthony Jones. It is still the only foreign importer of such machinery and has adopted the tactics with which the Japanese fight in foreign markets. Production costs in Britain are lower than in Japan which helps. But the company's profit margins in Japan have been pared sharply to remain competitive.

The determination has to be repeatedly demonstrated. To keep agents motivated Sortex mount regular visits. This year Jones and managing director Bill Bainbridge have each been to Japan and a technical adviser has spent three weeks in the country. There are plans to expand beyond the rice market. Jones says: "We have been successful because we have determinedly given the market what it wants, listening to what our agents have to say and to the end-users." But he sees no glimmer of change to ease the lot of other British importers.

Derek Harris

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To New York, 3 times weekly, direct... To Tel Aviv... To Geneva, Malta and Oslo... And, later in the year, to Bahrain and Hong Kong. To name but seven.

So that by the end of 1985, Manchester International Airport will be operating direct scheduled services to fifty-three destinations in Britain and world-wide. But that's by no means the end of the story.

In addition to the fifty-three Scheduled destinations, Manchester has direct links to seventy three other destinations on charter routes, making a total of one hundred and twenty-six centres served direct from Manchester.

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That's our kind of airport. Ready now for the 1990s. Planned with the realism and meticulous research that for the last decade has determined our place in world aviation as Britain's better gateway for central and northern Britain.

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Animal rights: rules do apply

TALKBACK

From Sir Andrew Huxley, President, The Royal Society, 6 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1.

In your second article on animal rights (May 22) you make statements about the present regulations governing experiments on living animals which, though factually correct, are highly misleading through their omissions.

You state correctly that "Certificate A allows an experiment without anaesthesia" but omit to say that such certificates are never granted for operative procedures more severe than are normally performed without anaesthesia on humans.

You state correctly that an animal must be painlessly killed forthwith if it is suffering pain which is severe or is likely to endure and if the main result of the experiment has been attained, but omit to mention that if the pain is severe and likely to endure, the animal must be killed painlessly forthwith, whether or not the main result of the experiment has been attained.

Through these omissions you give a totally false impression of the severity of procedures that are permitted in Britain.

These restrictions do not of course prevent all pain and distress in experimental animals but such suffering is far outweighed by the reduction of suffering achieved through the advances in medical (and veterinary) practice which result.

Your account of the regulations proposed in the recent White Paper is also highly misleading since you imply that

all the restrictions you mention are new. In fact, most of them have been in operation for many years.

The new Act will be a great advance and the proposals are welcomed by almost all of those who carry out these experiments and, on the animals' protection side, by all except the extremists. But this is no excuse for telling your readers that the present regulation of animal experiments is much less strict than it is in fact the case.

No dead monkeys found at break-in

From Professor Sir Geoffrey Slaney, KBE, President, The Royal College of Surgeons of England, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2.

Your article on the animal rights movement states that during their break-in at the College research centre in Kent last August, members of the South East Animal Liberation League (SEALL) "found Mone, two dead monkeys and others who had broken their arms trying to reach water trays outside their cages. SEALL left the animals behind because it is now policy not to 'liberate' animals but to concentrate on collecting evidence - film, photographs and documents."

For the record, this statement is not true because: 1. Although SEALL members (who have not identified themselves) did £15,000 worth of damage and stole documents and other records which have not been returned, they did not enter the monkey house.

2. As was clearly established in the evidence given by both sides in the case brought against us by the British Union for the

Abolition of Vivisection at Bromley Magistrates Court, SEALL members found no dead or injured monkeys and all the water-bottles are positioned inside the cages. What they found - and stole - were notes and health records made over a lengthy period by members of staff whose work is to care for the animals; notes and records similar to those that would be made on individual human patients in any hospital.

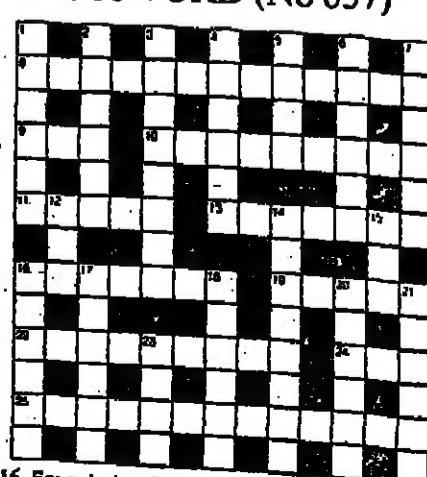
3. If they had entered the house where over 200 macaque monkeys were kept, SEALL members would have found all the monkeys alive, with sound limbs, plenty of water in their cages and generally well cared for.

Stewart Tendler

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 657)

ACROSS
8 Vivian (4,2,3,4)
9 Regret (3)
10 Ensure (9)
11 Recurring image (5)
12 Impartial (7)
16 Memory loss (7)
19 Use carelessly (5)
22 Of movement (9)
24 High ball (3)
25 Complete change (13)

DOWN
1 Small flower (6)
2 Stick (6)
3 Conference (8)
4 Achieve (6)
5 Second Greek letter (4)
6 Speak jokingly (6)
7 Teck plates (6)
12 Murnum (3)
14 Not desiring (8)
15 Towards stern (3)



SOLUTION TO No 656

ACROSS: 1 Caries 7 Rich 8 Entranch 9 Departing 13 Sew 16 Incommunicado 17 Due 19 Table Bay 24 Obligated 25 Mill DOWN: 1 Cart 2 Recherche 3 Smeat 4 Tithe 5 Poet 6 Lycee 10 Admit 11 Truncheon 12 Drive 13 Shamanism 14 Wool 15 Find 18 Uzbek 20 Amity 21 Lagos 22 Firm 23 Plan

BOOKS

George Too Shaw to be modest, too clever by three-quarters

James Fenton reviews the letters of the imp of Anglo-Irish intellectuals who kept his wit and his temper

BERNARD SHAW
Collected Letters 1911-1925
Edited by Dan H. Laurence
Macmillan, £25

The progress of this edition has been steady. The first volume appeared in 1965, the second in 1972. These are now reissued at the same price as the volume under review, so that for £75 you can purchase 2,700 pages of a great correspondence, and still not have the lot. For a start, Dan H. Laurence has selected and trimmed the material, so that as far as I can see very little space is wasted - everything here will be of interest to somebody, although very different somebodies are being catered for. The student of theatrical history and practice is not necessarily the same person as the historian of the Irish question, let alone the Fabian freak. And of course there remains another quarter century to be covered. The notes are full enough to help the average reader over the main points; but the editor has held back from a really full annotation, which would have involved the felling on another 500 pages of text. The letters are as written, with spelling mistakes and eccentricities of style unaltered. For the scholar, the result is reliable, and for the punter - fun. (Four illustrations are missing from my copy, but I'm not complaining.)

The drawback, when it comes to admiring Shaw, is that the old man did so much of the editing on his own behalf. He does go on so like a child at the age when he thinks his navel to be the most admirable achievement in creation. Still, just as such a child is eminently able to communicate this belief to a roomful of adults, so Shaw can involve us in an appreciation of his genius. The editor reminds us in the previous volume that it was Jung who thought of Shaw as more of a child than a sage. Shaw says here that Irishmen grow into adults, whereas the English remain children, which is why it is intolerable for the Irish to be governed by the English. But the fact is that the question who is a child and who an adult cannot be very easily settled.

Only an adult could write the kind of letters of condescension penned here - discreet, firmly

expressed, and without any wallowing. Only an adult could have attempted to advise a friend's wife so clearly that her marriage having become so painful, it might be the best thing to end it at once. The Shaw who emerges from the plays may be narcissistic to the point of exasperation, but the Shaw of the letters has a highly tuned sense of who, his correspondents are and how they might be suffering. He is mature too in his attitude to money, which he can talk about without circumlocution. Asked by the Hearst organization to stay in London to cover the coronation, Shaw, who was planning to escape the whole thing, tells Hearst to name his fee "roundly, in millions of dollars". He knew his value; and he knew the value of poverty.

On the other hand, Shaw seems immature when it comes to his own affairs of the heart. The letters to Mrs Patrick Campbell, included in this volume are definitely narcissistic. Shaw may have been wounded at not getting what he wanted, but the question very much arises what it was he did want. His own wife had been 40 at the time of their marriage, and had a horror of breeding (as he calmly informs a biographer), and so all that kind of thing had been out of the question. Yet he does not seem to have turned to Mrs Pat in the hope of a sexual fling. Rather it was a matter of seeing himself as an infatuated lover in the grand style. When Mrs Pat turns her attention to George

Conwallie-West, Shaw behaves very well. Too well, really. Suspiciously little jealousy on view. So we learn that one can be mature about some things and not about others. About the outbreak of the Great War, which dominates the first part of this volume, Shaw writes with real anger and understanding of the meaning of mass slaughter, and the editor calls his stance the most courageous of his life. He maintains contact with a German friend, to whom he writes in a friendly and earnest manner, conscious of the international significance of his published views. Anti-Prussian he may be, but he is quite innocent of the kind of anti-Germanism that infected his contemporaries. He absolutely refused to throw reason and humanity overboard in the pursuit of war aims. Nor does he court martyrdom in his relations with the public in England - indeed he continually emphasizes the respect with which his attacks on the Government are heard.

That horrified sense of the cataclysm being willed and somehow enjoyed among certain classes has its classic expression in *Heartbreak House*, at the end of which the Zeppelin is welcomed with excitement. "What a glorious experience," says Mrs Hushabye. "I hope they'll come again tomorrow night." It is interesting to see that this fatal attraction to catastrophe was observed by Shaw not in others but in himself.

I went to see the wreck (of the Zeppelin) on my motor-bicycle. The police were in great feather, as there is a strict cordon, which means that you can't get in without paying. The charges are not excessive, at £1 I got in. I was in great impression by a shilling. Corpses are scarce, no doubt, but I did not intrude on the last sleep of the brave. What is hardly credible, but true, is that the sound of the

Zep's engines was so fine, and its voyage through the stars so enchanting, that I positively caught myself hoping next night that there would be another raid. I got in to see that after the Zepp fell like a burning newspaper, with its human contents roasting for some minutes (it was frightfully slow) I went to bed and was comfortably asleep in ten minutes. One is so pleased at having seen the show that the destruction of a dozen people or so in hideous terror and torment does not count. "I didn't half cheer, I tell you," said a dervish at the wreck. Pretty lot of animals we are.

In such passages we see the mature writer facing the childish response in himself. It takes honesty and it takes courage; but this insight is merely thrown in at the end of a letter to the Webbs explaining why Shaw has resigned from the *New Statesman*.

The question as to whether Shaw was writing for his correspondents or for posterity may be easily settled. It is unpleasant to read someone whose relationship to posterity is fictive and unacknowledged, so that an intimate communication has a way of looking over the recipient's shoulder. In some of the letters, for instance those to Maxine Gordon, it is obvious that Shaw is a public figure addressing another public figure in public. But since the sense of his own genius does not seem to abandon him it is clear that he expected all his correspondence to be eventually perused. But there is nothing furtive about this. Shaw takes it for granted. He is not like the man who looks over your shoulder at a party, because he really does not expect anyone more interesting than himself to arrive at the party. So this allows him to concentrate perfectly adequately on anyone he is addressing.

He has a genuine good temper. Even when he is remonstrating or complaining about some bad treatment, he manages a frankness and wit which is most persuasive. He has grievances, but not secret ones. He is quite remarkably unbothered.



He still bestrides Downing Street

John Selwyn Gummer

GLADSTONE, POLITICS AND RELIGION
Edited by Peter J. Jagger
Macmillan, £25

Ours is not an age that welcomes a colossus. We should be more interested in calculating the opportunity cost of its construction than marvelling at its height or measuring the span. We have a determination to bring things down to size - by which we usually mean a size sufficiently small not to constitute a challenge. It is therefore a refreshing characteristic of these lectures on Gladstone that they all manifest a plain old fashioned wonder at the sheer immensity of their subject.

Ten lectures - each working on some small part of Gladstone's life at work, and all given at St Deiniol's - the library he founded and the nation endowed as a memorial to him. They pick out fascinating aspects of the man - his relationship with Palmerston, his contribution to Librarian-ship, his understanding of ecclesiastical authority, Midlothian in retrospect - they leave us longing for the whole perspective - the massive context. They send us scurrying back to Morley's *Life* or on to the *Diaries*. Perhaps even more they assert the need for a new Morley without his restrictions, and perhaps with our longer view. Certainly this collection makes even more clear the truth of Lord Rosebery's remark that a limited liability company would be necessary to write a biography of Gladstone, and to write a history of his religious opinions alone would need a more detailed sympathy than any one man could supply.

Nevertheless, these 11 have done much to remind us of the breadth of a man who dominated English politics for so long. He had an intensity of spirit which all of these disparate studies reveal. It arose perhaps from his deep belief of his need to justify his every waking hour before God. So his diary was his account-book of time. He would have understood Margaret Thatcher's enthusiasm for work and her inability

to waste time. He would not have understood the single-mindedness of a modern Prime Minister's total absorption in politics. This reader of Dante, librarian of St Deiniol's, pamphleteer, and moral reformer, found time to worship, to pray, and above all to read.

To every activity he brought the same intensity. He did nothing by halves. His major speeches were worked over laboriously until they were perfect. He mastered Dante in the original, and read voraciously to widen his understanding of Dante's world. He even designed bookcases to meet his exacting standards as a librarian - in all things he was meticulous.

Yet it was not the detailed accuracy of the pedant. It was the mastery of a man driven by the knowledge that he had to account for his time to a God who demanded perfection. That intensity of purpose forced through every aspect of Gladstone's life. It gave the edge to his controversial writing and speaking.

Of course we lesser men can see when Gladstone seems to deceive himself. We can pick out the accidents which later he would weave into his grand design. Yet we cannot honestly reduce the stature of the Grand Old Man. He fitted his century as he would no other, but his principles of foreign policy and his economic probity are real forces in politics today - if not notably in the modern Liberal Party. As for his views on the Church of England - Gladstone thou shouldst be living at this hour.

The end of the Gnostic Odyssey

FICTION
Hugh Barnes

QUINX
Or The Ripper's Tale
By Lawrence Durrell
Faber, £8.95

THE UNBELONGING
By Joan Riley
The Women's Press, £7.95, paperback £2.95

THE BATTLE OF POLLOCKS CROSSING
By J. L. Carr
Viking, £8.95

The transmigration of souls is a grand enough theme for any novel, possibly the grandest of them all. Appropriately in *Quinx*, which completes his Avignon "quintet", Lawrence Durrell administers the rites. His human ship of fools enters the home strait. As in its precursor, *Monsieur*, passage begins with a journey over land, by rail, into the green country of Provence.

The war is over. Von Eastin, erstwhile commandant of Avignon, succumbs to cyclopean blindness in a nursing-home; Smirgel awaits trial on charges of collaboration; and civilians are left to old pursuits. Among them Lord Galen resumes his Arthurian quest for the treasure of the Templars, a timeless and circular odyssey like the sequence itself. If familiar characters or motifs recur, a sense of familiarity is absent. The mood has changed utterly since *Sebastian*. Avignon, City of the Popes, remains "rose of all the world", but the image now appears to be deceitful, evoking sickness as well as beauty.

Durrell's heroes, his journey-men and women, are illusive as ever, wavering between material and gnostic consolation. But an additional hopelessness (belonging to the nuclear age perhaps) has climbed aboard. The *Narrowschiff* is relunched as "the doomboat of our culture", in which the living merge with pictures and humanism is haunted by extinction. Sutcliffe recovers from the "pretty mystery" of a death cooked up for him in *Monsieur*, reproachful and querulous. And Blanford, his author - rhetorical body to Sutcliffe's soul - is no longer able to exercise authority.

As the saga disappears after

various myths and chimeras, the scene shifts from Constance's beloved Tu Duc, with its Viennese associations, to Galen's Provencal mansion. Gypsy invaders lay waste the region, gathering for the May festival. Galen's clerk, Quatre-fages, and Constance's lover, Alfred, are present only as shadows in the carnival, but Galen receives the unlikely assistance of Smirgel. The "double-spy" offers him the map that will unearth the Templars' vault, in exchange for his acquittal.

Quinx rewards a certain perseverance and enthusiasm. But its enjoyments are troublesome. Durrell concludes his *roman-gigogne* with his detachment unimpaired, and there is the inevitable pining of fingertips beyond or above. He fails at last to win us over to the side

of seriousness. The writing is assured throughout and aphoristic. If a little excruciating at times. There are also good jokes (Constance recalling Freud: "Fathology begins at home"). Durrell, of course, is his own worst critic - much of *Quinx* reads like a seminar - but in the figure of Aubrey Blanford he has produced a wonderful autodidactic whose obsessions with the five-act novel are his own: "Alas, it had not come off. The idea, like the reality, had been too gnostic and would, in the reality also, fail." The sublime airs are also his.

The heroine of Joan Riley's first novel sets out on a sentimental journey of sorts. After her mother's death, Hyacinth was brought to Leicester from her home in Jamaica which she returns to each night in dreams. Her father and her step-family offer shelter but not affection.

The Unbelonging is a study of friendliness in a hostile country. In it Riley describes "the threats and madness of England" as they are experienced by those on the outside. The only black girl in her year at school, Hyacinth is subjected to violence and playground whispers of "Kill the Nigger". At home her father's attitudes are incestuous and unapproachable, but illuminated by her reading of *Cider with Rosie*.

If Riley's account of pubescent angst and the chauvinism of men suffers from a dim

predictability, it is no less harrowing for that. Later on Hyacinth emerges from her father's house and wins a place at university. In the hall of residence she meets Perkins, another exile from Jamaica, who challenges her happy thoughts of home, and Charles, the first man not to assault her and the first to encourage her pride. *The Unbelonging* is a small book but not a slight one. Riley writes economically and with a fine ear for arguments; only "unclouded minds" see "unclouded visions" and then "only in a land of their own".

The Battle of Pollocks Crossing recalls the Wild West of 1929. Wall Street is crashing, and Wayne and Eastwood are still no more than cash registers in a movie mogul's eye. Meanwhile, as they say, a Bradford schoolteacher is taking part in a cultural exchange organized by the Anglo-American Goodwill League. George Gidner is posted to Palisades High School in the heart of South Dakota on a year's sabbatical.

At first he luxuriates in the contrast of his own life and his innocence abroad. George's early conviction that "it would be different out there: life would have a primitive purity" survives his journey but unhappily not his arrival or his settling in. The frontier proves vacuous and remote, like its morals or *Readers Digest*. George incurs his employers' wrath for raking over the nation's past, alerting pupils to the exploitable modern habits. The local bank is bankrupted and a posse runs its officials to ground. Pollocks Crossing erupts with bullets and bombast, leaving George and us to wonder at his time of heroes or "lost year in life".

Tsars get in your eyes

Hugh Montgomery-Massingberd

ELIZABETH AND ALEXANDRA
By Antony Lambton
Quartet, £10.95

One of the mysteries about Lord Mountbatten upon which Philip Ziegler's admirable biography did not shed any light was why the ardent royal genealogist spent so much time and money trying to crush the notion that the late Anna Anderson could have been his cousin, the Grand Duchess Anastasia. As Antony Lambton points out in one of the appendices to this riveting book about the last Empress of Russia and sister, Mountbatten also sought to penetrate as a "tablet of truth" the saga of what happened to the corpse of his Aunt Ella (Elizabeth, wife of the vicious Grand Duke Serge), now venerated on the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem. The story of how a loyalist priest rescued her remains from the bottom of a mine shaft and transported them a few thousand miles in heavy going to Peking, where the body was found to be uncorrupted, is dismissed as a sickly myth based on the vague child-hand gossip of the overgrown schoolboy and vulgar practical joker, Prince Christopher of Greece (another of Prince Philip's uncles).

In coming up with his own version of the fall of the Imperial House of Russia (he says "Romanov", I say "Romanoff"), the author (he says "Lord Lambton", I say "Mr Lambton") let's call the whole thing off) succeeds triumphantly in making us see why the Grand Duchess Serge should indeed be venerated, while furnishing her with a horrifyingly plausible

alternative fate. As this is a novel (hyped by the dizzy young ladies of Quartet as a "magnificent blending of fact and fiction") I shall not, contrary to the exploitable modern habit, reveal the author's demarcation.

A snag of reviewing a book of this sort is that if you feel inclined to pick nits, you are reminded it is a work of fiction: if you question something as being unlikely, you are told it really happened. Thus, though the stilted historical grandeur up inserted here and there in the mouths of various convenient minor characters were doubtless all based on impeccable research, as dialogue they sound about as convincing as the expurgated historical grandeur grafted into the script of *The Archers*.

Notwithstanding this carrying, Antony Lambton shows himself to be a considerable novelist, deftly handling a large cast of characters from Queen Victoria to Josef Stalin. It is a brilliant device to present what otherwise might have been an over-familiar story through the eyes of the lesser known of the two sisters.

For lounge lizards and sloppy Sloanes

Taki

SOCIAL SECURITY
By Nicola Shulman
Helmans, £8.95

I am delighted to be reviewing Nicola Shulman's book for many reasons. One that comes to mind is that I have never done an honest day's work in my entire life. I feel as qualified to comment on a set of manners for those who do nothing as, say, the Duke of Westminster would be in discussing a handbook on real collection.

Like the author, I know of a whole generation of people at Oxbridge who are unemployable, and who have unduly suffered from guilt over a vice (virtue really) I am rather proud of that of extreme laziness. This is why the book is very important. In fact, I predict that *Social Security* will do for those among the leisure class what the Spock opus did for children and the Greer report for female samurais.

Here, at last, for the first time in print, is a collection of things

lazy lounge lizards ought to be doing, saying, thinking, while not working. Things the author calls manifestations of laziness. She begins her slim volume with the truest sentence I've read since *The Times* quoted Her Majesty about the coal-miners strike having something to do with Arthur Scargill. Let that unemployment be the newest profession, that work is not a good thing, and the sheer lunacy of those who "feel obliged to take up gainful employment out of sheer embarrassment at their inability to answer the question what do you do?"

Shulman attacks certain sacred cows of the designer's world we live in, such as modelling. According to her, modelling is the modern equivalent of Coming Out. She should know. Through modelling she has met every lounge lizard and Henry VIII side of Calais. Her book offers hints on how to spot the funded, and how the unfunded can convert by fantasy concerning funds ("featuring an aunt or uncle living in some unimaginable place like Saskatchewan, being unable to breed").

The guide to correct name-dropping I found to be the most profound part of the book. "The I-know-Andy-Warhol-therefore-I-am school of name-dropper, as opposed to I-think-I-know-Andy-Warhol-therefore-I-am counterpart," with its Cartesian logic made me happy to be

unemployed and with time on my hands to read Descartes.

There is also a chapter on drugs, which I must confess left me mystified. "It is not so much that the consumption of drugs is a chemical cause of conversation as that it is increasingly the subject of it." I am not so sure. Druggies nowadays talk only about prison sentences, not about drugs.

Having read the book I tested the waters by sending it to a couple of my friends, two of the most unemployable people I know, Hugo Guinness and Lady Cosima Fry. The Guinness response was: "It is enough to make anyone want to get a job abroad." Lady Cosima: "I liked the chapter headings but couldn't concentrate enough to read the rest." See what I mean about the U(nemployed). Thank God it's a slim volume.

Kill as a regular verb

CRIME

Marcel Berlins

● **Dead Romantic**, by Simon Brett (Macmillan, £7.50). Repressed sexuality at a language school leads inexorably to a manic killing in a remote love-nest cottage. Brett demonstrates again that his non-Charles-Paris world is dark, complex, and oppressive. He writes with vigour and power, and the shocking final twist is exceptionally well-handled. But should we not like his characters a little more than we do?

● **Briarpatch**, by Ross Thomas (Harcourt, £8.95). Convincing small of police and political corruption, as Washington adviser returns to native city for far-bombard sister's funeral. He attempts to reach truth about his own past and into present danger. Thomas is a superior storyteller, particularly strong on dialogue and small-city atmosphere.

● **A Very Private Enterprise**, by Elizabeth Rossiter (Hodder & Stoughton, £8.95). Sinclair of the F.O. investigates murder of Brit diplomat in India, killed among his ill-gotten riches. Excellent local colour and culture, good adventure and an admirable denouement, from the winner of the Crime Writers' Association's award for best first crime novel.

● **Our Fathers' Lies**, by Andrew Taylor (Gollancz, £8.95). He wouldn't have drunk supermarket gin, only Gordon's, so it must be murder. Victim's daughter and erstwhile ex-lover do well boy-friend pursue the clues with more enthusiasm than discretion, murky wartime secrets are exhumed, and the conclusive confrontation satisfies. Sharp, literate, well-ordered, and fun.

● **Performance**, by Douglas Clark (Gollancz, £7.95). Eleven unlinked women killed immediately after enjoying a minor triumph. Chief Inspector Masters on hand when the twelfth succumbs, taking a certain call after a local *Messiah*. Old-fashioned red-herring and ingenious. Critics' and readers' gripe: if Gollancz insists on subdividing its crime into "detection" and "thriller" labels, should the distinction not be based on logic rather than random scattering?

● **Murder Makes Tracks**, by Gillian Lindsay (Macmillan, £7.95). Filthy-rich financier with a plethora of unloving wives slaughtered on the ski-slopes with a cross-bow. Amiable layabout ex-cop Birdie and girl-friend Nimue are there with a bunch of comprehensive school yobboes. Fast action even nursery slopers can follow.

● **Look Back on Murder**, by Malcolm Gray (Ross Anderson Publications, Bolton, £7.50). Christie-esque country weekend of guests assembled to resolve thirty-year-old murder. Guilty secrets emerge at frantic pace, more bodies appear, and seedy private eye Alan Craig makes a promising debut.

Who's Who?



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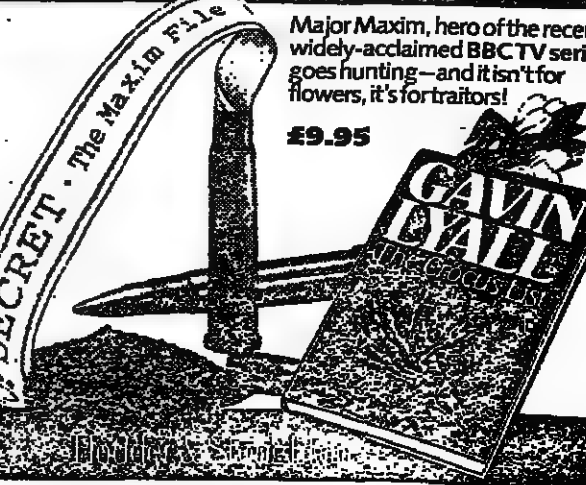
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GRANADA

THE CROCUS LIST by GAVIN LYALL

Bestselling author of 'THE SECRET SERVANT' and 'THE CONDUCT OF MAJOR MAXIM'



THE TIMES DIARY

Burning with indignation

As the GLC continues to condemn countless organizations as fire hazards I can disclose one famous London building which does not hold a fire certificate: the GLC's HQ at County Hall. "It's a rather extraordinary situation, I admit," said a GLC spokesman yesterday. "Things only seemed to get moving after the ethnic minorities office caught fire a couple of months ago." Indeed, the GLC is still installing fire doors to qualify for its certificate. Since the Bradford City fire, the GLC has not been backward in alerting others: apart from ordering Wimbledon FC to close a stand, it has told Brentford FC to shut its social room, accused Wimbledon tennis grounds of failing to meet "the rigorous standards demanded by the GLC" and told Lord's it is a "potential time bomb." Yesterday GLC complained led to the closure of the top tier of the main pavilion at the Oval. According to the GLC public services chairman, storing petrol under the stand was an "epic piece of mismanagement."

Tee-hee

Lord Birkett, director of the GLC's recreation and arts department, is much tickled by the post-abolition fate of the Hainault golf course. If it were handed over to the local authorities, he says, there would be one 11-hole course, one of six-holes and a one-hole course, each owned by a different authority. Hainault falls within Epping Forest, Havering and Redbridge municipal areas. On one hole, says Lord Birkett, the tee would be in one district and the green in another. Makes you think.

● The new captain of HMS Jupiter, that luckless ship which smashed into London Bridge: Commander R. A. Y. Bridges.

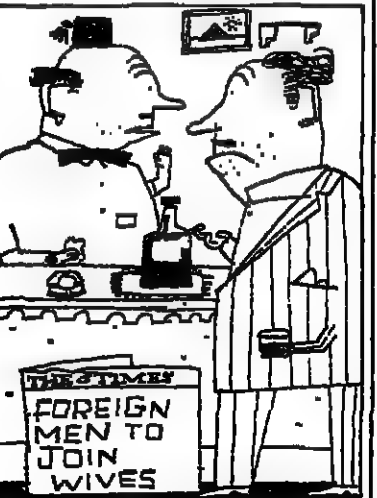
Rattled

Labour's social services spokesman Michael Meacher threw a tantrum yesterday and refused to attend a press conference until my colleague Anthony Bevins was removed. Bevins, you may recall, was one of the journalists named and condemned last month by Meacher on Channel Four for his coverage of Meacher's half-baked proposals to review the tax and benefits system. Yesterday's debacle started when Bevins was asked to cover the press conference in place of our social services correspondent, who is on holiday. When Meacher went into the conference room, he took one look at Bevins and announced: "I have to get some documents" before haring off. Meacher's assistant Alan Meale then appeared, and made it clear Meacher would not return until Bevins left. At the thought of Meacher staying locked in the lavatory for three days, Bevins did the decent thing.

Tipped again

Poor Jock Bruce-Gardyne. Every time speculation about an editorship comes up - whether it's the *Daily Telegraph* or the *Beano* - he is wrongly tipped. Now he's being named as the next editor of a new City mag, jointly owned by publisher Kevin Kelly, the *Financial Times* and Conde Nast and allegedly Britain's answer to *Forbes*. The first issue of the mag (working title *Business People*) is due to appear next March. Lord Bruce-Gardyne just isn't in the running. Destined for the hot seat, I am told, is Joe Rogaly, currently chief executive of the FT Business Information company. A beano at Claridges beckons as soon as the ink dries on his contract.

BARRY FANTONI



"Cheer up, Abdul, you don't have to go"

Over here

The waves from last week's General Dynamics scandal have, surprisingly, so far failed to cross the Atlantic. Two General Dynamics divisions were suspended from further contracts with the US Navy until the corporation repays \$75 million in overcharges and establishes "a rigorous code of ethics." One of these was the Electric Boat Company of Connecticut with which the Ministry of Defence currently has a number of hefty contracts including two involving the British Trident submarine. The MoD says it will consider its position when it receives the US defence department report. I trust the British taxpayer, unlike his American counterpart, will not be subsidising General Dynamics to the tune of \$9,600 for a spanner, \$640 for a laboratory seat, and \$346 for a mattress for an executive displeased with his hotel bed.

PHS

When irony is the best policy

Commenting on the latest round of carnage in Lebanon, diplomats and journalists alike have found themselves resorting over and over again to the word irony - and with very good reason.

It is indeed ironic that Sabra and Shatila, the two refugee camps in which Christian militia, allied with Israel, massacred several hundred Palestinians in 1982, should now once again be under attack, only this time by fellow Muslims (the Shia Amal) acting in virtually open cooperation with Syria.

It is indeed ironic that with the death toll in Sabra and Shatila likely to run at least as high this time as it did in 1982, and even with reports of atrocities against civilians beginning to circulate, the world which rose in righteous outrage then can barely suppress a yawn of boredom today.

It is indeed ironic that the PLO faction controlled by Syria has joined forces with its hated enemy, the PLO faction holed up in the refugee camps and still loyal to Yasser Arafat, in the war against the Shia Muslims.

But perhaps the most dizzying irony of all is this: now that the Israelis are practically gone, and just less than a year after almost everyone is saying that their invasion of Lebanon has ended in failure, the unfinished business of the invasion is in the process of being completed.

In putting together the report we had necessarily to set our sights on legislation. We had not after all been asked to express our individual moral beliefs, but to advise ministers how legislation should be drawn up to regulate and control the new areas of development in the treatment of infertility and the new knowledge of developing human embryos.

It is a truism to say that legislation must be directed to the common good. This means the good, as far as it can be achieved, of all those subject to the law. We inevitably were aware of conflict in the definition of this common good, especially as we ourselves were divided on more than one moral issue. Yet we had to produce a report which set out the arguments for what the majority of us believed to be in the public interest; and this report was signed by us all.

One question before us was whether or not to recommend that research using human embryos should be permitted to continue, in the interests of treating infertility and of discovering more about the nature of genetically inherited diseases. We recommended that it should continue but only subject to strict control and monitoring. The issue was whether or not to treat very early human embryos, fertilized in the laboratory, as full human beings with full human rights.

The collections of cells we were considering, visible only under the microscope, not yet distinguished into that which might ultimately become a foetus (or more than one) and that which would become the placenta; these cells had to be defined from scratch, a status accorded them for the first time. No one before this decade had ever looked through a microscope and seen a collection of human cells with such potential.

Enoch Powell's Unborn Children (Penguin) Bill treats precisely the question the committee had to settle. Were these embryos to count as children or not? If they were indeed children, then there could be no difficulty. They would already under present law have rights, the right to live and the right not to be used for purposes of research. But up to now the embryo in the womb does not have the rights of a child.

Norman Podhoretz points to some unintended consequences of events in Lebanon

To compound this enormous irony said further: the job is being done not by the Israelis themselves, or even by their Christian allies, but by the Syrians and their Shia Muslim proxies.

Consider. When the Israelis went into Lebanon in 1982, their main objective was to dismantle the state-within-a-state that the PLO had set up in the southern part of the country and from which it could attack settlements on Israel's northern border. In this objective the Israelis were clearly successful. The PLO strongholds in southern Lebanon were overrun by Israeli forces, huge caches of arms were captured, and terrorist training and operational centres were wiped out. Why then, three years later, have so many people concluded that the invasion was a failure?

One reason is that elements of the PLO are still in Lebanon, some having managed to stay behind in 1982, others having sneaked back since. To be sure, the blame for this lies largely with the United States, which pressured the Israelis into accepting an evacuation plan that made it possible for the PLO to restore a military presence in Beirut.

Meanwhile, we see the Syrians moving in their devious and utterly ruthless way to bring the remnants of the PLO entirely under their control. We also see them playing

Another reason the invasion is said to have failed is that it allegedly has resulted in the creation of a new terrorist threat to Israel's northern border. This time it is coming from the Shia Muslims, who at first welcomed the Israelis as liberators from PLO tyranny, but who eventually now have become as fanatically anti-Israel as the PLO itself.

At first sight these two reasons add up to a weighty indictment. Yet what do we see when we look at them in the light of the latest round of fighting in Lebanon? We see a campaign by the Shia Muslims to prevent the PLO from once again using Lebanon as a base for terrorist operations against Israel which, they rightly fear, would provoke Israeli reprisals against Shia Muslims living in the south. In other words, far from planning new terrorist attacks on Israel, the Shia Muslims are trying to finish the job on the PLO that the United States prevented the Israelis from finishing themselves.

Meanwhile, we see the Syrians moving in their devious and utterly ruthless way to bring the remnants of the PLO entirely under their control. We also see them playing

one Lebanese faction against another so that none become powerful enough to challenge their present dominant position in Lebanon.

In view of the fact that the maximum Israeli objective in 1982 was to get the Syrians out of Lebanon as well, it is this position of dominance that supplies a third and the only solid reason for calling the invasion a failure. On the other hand, from the Israeli point of view, a Lebanon in which the PLO is on a Syrian leash is the next best thing to a Lebanon in which there is no PLO at all. For, no more than the Shia Muslims in the South, are the Syrians about to permit terrorist operations by the PLO that would lead to Israeli reprisals against Syria which might then escalate into a full-scale war.

One thing, at any rate, is certain: if and when the Syrians decide to make war on Israel again, it will not be for the sake of the PLO or to serve the Palestinian cause in general.

Even where the Syrian role in Lebanon is concerned, then, the invasion is turning out to have been a success - albeit in an unintended and unanticipated form as bewilderingly ironic as everything involving Lebanon, poor Lebanon, inevitably seems to be.

The author is editor of *Commentary* magazine.

Absolutely wrong

by Mary Warnock



And so if embryos in the test tube were likewise not children then it would be possible for a law to be drafted which would restrict but not totally prevent their use in research programmes.

Research was already going on, using such embryos, but subject to no laws. Our aim was to regulate and control this research, and allow the public to be aware of what was being done and for what purposes. We were impressed by the thought that without research there would have been no *in vitro* fertilization; and that without continued research *in vitro* fertilization would come to an end, for no responsible doctor would recommend a treatment whose success rate is so low unless there were the possibility of continued research to improve it. But according to the Powell bill such research is to become a criminal offence.

Enoch Powell declared that he read our report with "revulsion and repugnance which was deep and

instinctive". Research using human embryos is, in his view, something that can in no circumstances be justified. No considerations of benefit to the infertile or advance in the prevention of inherited disease are relevant.

This is the conclusion of moral absolutism, and words such as "deep" and "instinctive" seem to give it authority. There are many people who are persuaded by this simple attitude. Its very simplicity recommends it. But it may be permitted to ask why such absolutism is to be found in this particular case and not in the many other moral issues with which Parliament is concerned.

Part of the answer, as I have suggested, lies in the rhetoric of the title of the bill. We are invited to assimilate the use of embryos in research to something we would regard as of countenance, the murder of innocent children. Here is something on which any politician, however uncertain and wavering on

other issues, can take an unshakable moral stand. To come upon such an absolute value must be a lifeline in a stormy sea.

The absolutism of Powell's supporters is therefore easy because it is safe; and also because, for most people, it is somewhat remote from real life. If we are faced with a real moral dilemma, we must at least be aware of moral conflict. There are two principles at stake which are, in the particular instance, incompatible. Each of us must realize that, however we choose to act, and although we could justify and explain the choice, we ourselves or someone else might have chosen differently.

In the case of research on human embryos, on the other hand, it is someone else who will either use them or not; it is someone else who must weigh up the destruction of an embryo against the fertility of a hitherto infertile couple, or the gradual conquest of disease. Most of us, after all, are not infertile, nor are we suffering from the ravages of inherited disease. Most of us, happily, do not have children dying before our eyes of incurable diseases.

Those who are faced with these tragedies, however much they believe in the sanctity of human life, also recognize that there are other values in conflict. For them there can be none of the perfect simple certainty of the Powell bill. They do not long for something bad or immoral. On the contrary, it is good; and yet they are told that if they are to have it, they must breach a principle which is absolute and universal. And so they discover that in real life values may be irreconcilable.

This is not a fault in the world. It is a consequence of the real complexity of human aspirations. Many moralists have argued that there must be some way ultimately to reconcile conflicting principles, but that is fantasy, and legislators cannot deal in fantasy. They have to take into account as many of the aspirations of those who live under the law as they possibly can.

If we are those who, like Enoch Powell, feel revulsion at the thought of research that uses human embryos then they are of course at liberty to express their views; they will not themselves take part in such research, nor need they make use of its benefits. But the law should beware of following the ideals of extremists.

The great tide of moral fundamentalism sweeping across from America, is in my view a genuine threat. It cannot be wholly distinguished from dogmatism, intolerance and fanaticism; forces not just theoretically objectionable, but, as we all know, in practice terrifying.

Lady Warnock, Mistress of Girton College, Cambridge, was chairman of the Committee of Inquiry into Human Fertilisation and Embryology.

Seoul spring: can Chun stand the heat?

Seoul There is a new book of glossy colour photographs available in Seoul these days. The book shows President Chun Doo Hwan lighting cigarettes for farmers, posing with his wife in the Blue House or meeting President Reagan. It is a sure sign of a government which is not quite sure of itself, despite an economy which has been growing almost without pause until the first part of this year, elections in February which were the freest and fairest in memory, and the prospect of hosting the 1988 Olympics.

President Chun's liberalization of political life, the "Seoul spring", has moved farther and faster than either he or his American champions could have imagined. The elections gave South Koreans a real feel of the power of the ballot and brought together feelings about the Government which needed to be focused.

There was freedom of speech during campaigning in a country which normally closely controls the press and television. Prospective general assembly members called the President a military dictator and relatives' conduct. Clearly many of them considered it a just chance to get things off their chests, with little chance of being elected, and damn the consequences.

The consequences turned out to be a solid block of opposition members of the New Korea Democratic Party in the assembly,

and an excited public and opposition with heightened expectations of change, who have since been calling President Chun to account with a directness not seen since the 1960s.

To his credit, President Chun has done nothing directly to retaliate against his critics. But he did two things which tend to belie the more liberal image he is trying to create: he brought in two men, as leader of the ruling Democratic Justice Party and Prime Minister, who are closely associated with the notorious Kwangju incident of May 1980.

Prior to the election, no newspaper was permitted to print the word Kwangju in association with the President. More information on the bloody suppression of this anti-government uprising has appeared outside Korea than at home. Although a minimum of several hundred people died at the hands of special forces, ordered in by the then General Chun, nothing but an absurdly low government figure for casualties has ever been made public. By itself, even that might not be sufficient to cause any widespread dissatisfaction with the President - Kwangju is in the deep south, far from Seoul. But the public also remembers how the President took power and how the capital was essentially cut in two.

The Seoul spring has brought these birds home to roost. Some national assembly members are

demanding an inquiry, but not vigorously enough for the students who recently occupied the United States Information Service library. They believe that the United States played a part in the suppression of Kwangju by releasing Korean forces from the joint military command which subsequently took part in the killing. American denials notwithstanding, the students, joined by an increasing number of intellectuals, consider their own small but vigorous country to be over-dependent on its American "big brother" which gave unqualified support to President Chun at the time of his accession.

The US has been encouraging Chun's liberalization for some time, but has been hedging its bets with Kim Dae Jung, who returned to Korea to join the other leading opposition figure, Kim Young Sam, and a promise from the President that he will voluntarily step down in 1988. If he does he will be the first Korean president to do so.

Just to make sure, opposition parties are demanding direct election of the next president and revision of the constitution written on Chun's assumption of office. They are not likely to get either.

Students left the USIS library without receiving the apology they demanded of the Americans but they succeeded in drawing national and international attention to long-standing grievances against the

President. As with many things that trouble the South Korean Government the students were labelled pro-communist.

The silver-haired survivor of a hunger strike which nearly killed him, Kim Young Sam is rather cynical about the Government's constant reminders that full freedom must wait. "Every spring they say there's going to be real danger this summer. In the summer they say there's going to be real danger this autumn, and in the autumn they say there's going to be real danger this winter. They say that every year."

"Of course there is danger from North Korea and if the Government has not got the trust of the people their position is very much in danger. When the Government has got the people's trust political stability will put down deep roots."

So far trust is the very thing President Chun has not yet won. To win it would take an act of honesty and courage which would probably sweep him from office. As yet vocal discontent is confined to students, professors and those directly affected by some of the regime's excesses.

President Chun's dilemma is whether to press on with liberalization, as Washington urges, and risk uncertainty for the economy, or to heed some of his hard-line colleagues lest Seoul's spring becomes a hot summer.

David Watts

Ronald Butt

If the House were left hanging

Whenever a third party makes serious mid-term inroads into the government's electoral support, political table talk becomes coalition talk. So it is now. What if there were a hung Parliament, with the Alliance parties holding the balance? What precise difference would it make to the course of events whether the Conservatives or Labour were the largest party in that Parliament?

Much depends on the precise nature of the parliamentary statistics, even assuming that the Alliance has robbed Mrs Thatcher of her overall majority. But one (and only one) golden rule obtains in any situation where there is no immediately clear parliamentary majority. This is that the Queen's government must be carried on, and it is the business of the politicians to conduct themselves as to ensure that it is, without embarrassment to the Queen.

If the recent findings of three public opinion polls are taken together, they seem to suggest that in an election held now the three parties would have more or less equal shares of the total vote. In such circumstances, Dr Gordon Rees of Bristol University has shown by statistical analysis that if the Alliance's share is around 32 per cent, a hung Parliament or a Labour majority is likely. A Tory majority does not seem indicated on this level of Alliance voting.

If the Conservatives were the largest party but lacked a clear majority, Mrs Thatcher need not resign. She would be entitled to invite the Alliance leaders into a coalition with her, or to secure their general support by the kind of pact Mr Callaghan made with the Liberals in 1974. She could undertake not to bring in measures to which the Alliance was opposed, and to introduce a measure of proportional representation.

Should Mrs Thatcher be unwilling to do this, but know that it was the general wish of her party, she could stand down as leader, advising the Queen to send for whoever was elected as Tory leader in her place, who would act with the Alliance. Parliament would then enter a new era - provided the Conservative majority wished to adopt PR to keep Labour out.

Many Tories would argue against constitutional changes for political ends, although we should bear in mind that the impetus for every great constitutional change since Magna Carta has been political expediency rather than constitutional theory. A proportional system would also probably mean that the Tories would seldom, if ever, hold power alone again. On the other hand, PR would prevent a Labour Party in the grip of the left from introducing an irreversible socialist society by stages, destroying everything that Mrs Thatcher's years have achieved. The Tory Party would have to decide its priorities.

But if Labour were the largest party in a hung Parliament, would Mrs Thatcher still be entitled to stay in office by doing a deal with the Alliance? It is rather more questionable whether that would be in the spirit of the Constitution. Mr Heath did not get much credit when (in such circumstances) he seemed to wish to evade the electorate's move away from the Tories in 1974 by offering the Liberals "full participation" in his government, and a Speaker's conference on electoral reform. As it was, the Liberals refused, being only willing to

support a minority government on limited terms.

In those circumstances, then, it might be right for Mrs Thatcher to resign to give Mr Kinnoch the chance of forming a government with at least a temporary majority. But he has made it clear that he would refuse to treat with the Alliance. Hence his intemperate personal attack on Dr Owen. Labour hates the SDP as traitors; the Social Democrats exist as refugees from Labour. Labour might be willing to treat with the Liberals alone but we have to assume that, for credibility's sake, the Alliance will hold. So Mr Kinnoch would head a no-deal minority government.

Would the Tories and the Alliance then combine to vote Labour out immediately? They would obviously do so if Labour's first socialist speech was a menu of full socialist measures, but obviously Mr Kinnoch would delay until he had obtained a full majority in a further election called at his own convenience, after Labour had won acquiescence by temporary shelving controversy. He would hope that the other parties would then hold their hand.

But why should they? If the Alliance leaders could get a PR commitment from the Tories why should they risk their own destruction by letting Labour get a foothold from which to move on to a majority? Why, in these circumstances, should the Tories hesitate either?

If a minority Labour government were immediately defeated Mr Kinnoch might ask the Queen for a dissolution. He would not be justified in doing so since the country had just given its verdict. It is the business of politicians to work within the facts presented by the electorate, not immediately to say that the electorate was wrong. If it were quite clear by then that Labour would not form a parliamentary majority, and that the Tories and the Alliance could, it would be constitutionally correct for the Queen to refuse Mr Kinnoch a dissolution, provided he were defeated immediately on meeting parliament. Everything would, however, depend on how quickly Labour's parliamentary defeat took place. If it were (say) 3 to 6 months after the election, a dissolution would presumably be granted, since by then the electorate's mind might be held to have changed. But an immediate dissolution would not be constitutionally proper if an alternative prime minister with a majority were available.

Labour will try to establish in advance the bogus doctrine that the Queen could not in any circumstances refuse a dissolution. That would breach the doctrine that politicians should make governments possible without embarrassing the Crown. No doubt embarrassing the Crown would please part of the Labour Party, but the public would have its own view of the matter.

The doctrine must not be allowed to take root that dissolution is in the gift of any politician who has been given the chance to form a government when he or she could do so, but has refused to take it. Much lies between us and these possibilities. Mrs Thatcher has a long way to go to the election and on basic issues she has more public support than is now being supposed. But since there is talk about a hung Parliament we might at least be clear about the real constitutional options.

Paul Jennings

Fun & games may now begin

What a relief it is, now that Mr Palumbo's plan to drag up kicking and screaming into the 1930s his monster piece of Lego has been turned down, to be able to write with any kind of smile or light-heartedness about Mappin & Webb.

Mappin & Webb, brave survivors in the diminishing list of those marvellous, fundamentally British name-coupled - Lilley and Skinner, Chatto & Windus, Liddell & Scott, Horse & Hound, Bull & Bush, William & Mary, stretching right back to a past remote (Stephen & Matilda, Hengist & Horsa) or legendary.

Mappin & Webb; one sees two clever fifth-formers brought together by a shared unathleticism in some frightful, tough, 19th-century public school, meeting in later life, pooling their resources to start a shop at first selling globes, atlases, maps (naturally) and high-class stationery; then, after Mappin dies a bachelor, the numerous Webb family moving over into jewellery and watches and plate...

Mappin & Webb's elegantly turned-out occupation of a sharp corner of the Palumbo site was explained by a nice, smiling GLC architect in a recent *Ordnance* programme on the Palumbo scheme. This must have given many of us our clearest view of the pros and cons. The pros, mostly Riba chaps, seemed an unsmiling lot, going on about not standing still, one of them showing slides of some nice provincial High Street with buildings of different centuries harmoniously juxtaposed, omitting to observe that all were on a human scale, none looked like a 400ft pocket calculator with legs.

Mappin & Webb were on the route of a guided tour by a lady (unkindly described in this paper as "piping") from the Victorian Society, very articulate about the site's unique variety, use of medieval ground plans, etc. But there was a strong feeling that all the anti was curbing a natural-born Bejmanesque jollity and trying to look

as unsmiling as the pros. Not always successfully; there was another with a human-scale, unsmiling, alley-crossed model, conformable to our notions of secret, subdivided, winding, surprise-round-corner good old London with as many once-only details as there are diverse bars in a good old pub. He shrugged off this jolly creation of his as "just a suggestion" rather than an alternative to that Tower.

Well, now he and all of us anti can relax and smile and kill two birds with one stone. We could use that model and get all those names back. In the days when even feminists smiled, Lady Rhonda founded the admirable *Time & Tide*. It was unsurpassed, for among other things, its competitors, in one of them the scribe said that "Negretti & Zambra" (what happened to them?) sounded like the composer and librettist of *Cavalleria Rusticana*, and what did those shops suggest?

The entries were brilliant. Swan & Edgar, an Anglo-Saxon epic, Bourne & Hollingsworth, a way-side station in the Thames Valley, Robinson & Cleaver, a pair of notorious Victorian murderers, Chatto & Windus, two lively girls walking on a common on a brisk April day, Faber & Faber, twin blacksmiths in the Roman Empire...

Would it not in some mysterious way restore a life-giving thread of continuity to our national consciousness if Mappin & Webb, that model being adopted, were to have these glorious old names resurrected for their neighbours?

This would not only benefit the City, varying the scene with ladies coming up from the country for a new outfit, a nice telescope, bring tourists, and so on. It would save, along with all this would go computerized stock, use of medieval ground plans, etc. But there was a strong feeling that all the anti was curbing a natural-born Bejmanesque jollity and trying to look



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FIRST PRINCIPLES AT GENEVA

The resumption of the Geneva arms talks today inevitably quickens the pulse of those who hope for early results from the strategic dialogue being conducted between the Soviet Union and the United States. The pace of the dialogue is bound to be slower than the political expectations in the West, and slower now than what the Soviet leadership requires given Mr Gorbachev's need to establish himself over his bureaucracy. His main priority will be domestic but he cannot afford to ignore that a decision on arms control with President Reagan would profoundly affect the direction of the Soviet domestic economy over the next generation. So on the Soviet side there is an impatience which is also diplomatically useful in Mr Gorbachev's dealings with Western public opinion, which he hopes will contribute pressure on President Reagan to respond prematurely with a package which would be unsound.

The essence of the argument between East and West is still the matter of strategic defence. As Mr Fred Ikle, deputy in the Pentagon, reminds us in the current issue of *Foreign Affairs Quarterly* the era of defence by retaliation was forced on us after the war because current technology favoured offensive missile systems. It was not because the West felt it had to choose a system of defence based solely on retaliation. "To conclude that the only practical way to protect against destruction is to threaten retaliation in kind reflects not a permanent fact of technology but a choice of doctrine."

The Soviet leadership knows this. Indeed it never made such an invidious choice. In 1980 the Soviet leadership spent more on strategic defence research than the United States will spend this year. Moreover recent results from the Livermore Laboratories, which are central to the

strategic programme, continue to encourage the view that we are on the brink of a period where some effective defence against incoming nuclear attack is more available than ever before.

No democracy could afford to ignore the opportunity to research fully into such potential. That explains why in the West, in spite of the technical and political misgivings shown in West Europe, the underlying principle put forward by Mr Reagan in 1983 seems to be getting through to public opinion and to be conditioning the extent to which the political leaders ventilate their worries. Of course this acceptance of the principle must be buttressed by the evidence that the Soviet Union's campaign against it is cynically inspired, first because the Soviets have responded to themselves for so long and at such cost, and secondly because, through the persistent violation of previous arms control treaties and a generation of defence expansion which only makes sense in terms of acquiring an alarming first strike capability, that evidence now cannot prudently be ignored by the American administration.

The evidence is too overwhelming for the Soviet leadership to be given the benefit of the doubt. Hence the need for patience in Geneva until the Soviet leadership understands that the Reagan administration could not morally discontinue this research into strategic defence and will not do so. Any intermediate agreement based on some kind of trade off in the short term is not likely to be forthcoming. That started to become clear in the first session and will become clearer in the second.

Of course once the Soviet Union accepts that the United States is firmly committed to strategic defence research both

sides are released to explore the favourable consequences of the availability of such technology on the strategic scene. It enables them to start contemplating enormous reductions in offensive systems, regardless of whether or not a total defensive shield could ever be designed. Counter measures become more costly and visible for what they are. But they would obviously remain an important part of the strategic bargaining which will be a continuing feature of strategic Soviet relations.

In Europe, at a lower level, the improvement of defensive systems in the electronic age again holds out enormous promise for reducing the dangers of ground war. Moreover that reduction would be achieved by defensive methods which carry the right message to civilian populations who have been progressively demoralised by the notion that there was no answer to the nuclear threat except that of revenge, which would anyway be too late. Western civilisation needs to show that it has the inner self-confidence based on a philosophy of defence, if that is technically achievable, rather than the philosophy of mutual vulnerability to destruction which seems only to be based on the doctrine of despair.

The task at Geneva with the Soviet leadership, therefore, is to advance these arguments positively but with patience. The fact that such conversations are taking place is reassuring provided only that their success is not judged artificially by how quickly or slowly a piece of paper is produced which purports to settle matters. The talks are about security as a whole and the continuous search for it. They are not there to produce an agreement just for its sake which fails to take full account of the strategic insecurities which make talking necessary in the first place.

PITFALLS FOR TAX REFORMERS

There are obvious parallels between the tax reforms now being brewed up by the British and American governments. Both have become seized of the need to reduce tax rates for people and businesses. Both want to lift low-earners out of the tax net. Both are relatively strapped for cash: while Mrs Thatcher seemingly cannot prevent public spending eroding her scope for overall tax cuts, President Reagan seemingly cannot cut spending enough to avoid overall tax increases. So both are attempting to find the money by abolishing special reliefs and exemptions.

Nothing could be more different, however, than the two governments' approaches to reform. President Reagan is promoting it as the centrepiece of his second term. The British Government seems to have stumbled into tax reform almost by accident, as a way out of successive political embarrassments.

Mr Lawson embarked on business tax reform to bulk out his first Budget; the personal tax system arrived on the agenda as a result of pressures on the social security system, worries about unemployment and troubles with local authority rates. Though we have now been promised a green paper on personal tax, its coverage will be limited. The Treasury has given scant sign of strategic control; and the prime minister's interventions seem to have been

intended to obstruct rather than direct. It is not, to be fair, self-evident that the Reagan strategic approach will produce more than the piecemeal pattern of tax change in Britain. Even "Treasury Two", the second version of the Administration's tax strategy to which the President was applying his hard sell techniques on American television this week, shows signs of lobby-group damage.

The macroeconomic effect most desired by the American administration, an increase in savings and a diversion of them away from the inflated property market, is being reduced by small concessions on both personal and corporate taxation. By contrast, Mr Lawson's upheaval of the British system of corporation tax was simply announced in his 1984 Budget and driven through the House of Commons before business lobbyists had woken up. President Reagan, faced with the interminable grind of Congressional politics, must envy British tax-makers their power.

Yet this power has its limits, even in Britain, and Mrs Thatcher is pressing hard up against them. Tax reform, if it is to find any friends, must be presented as a coherent whole. Proposals have instead been spinning out of the government machine like tennis balls, to be hit back, missed or driven into the parliamentary net.

LEARNING HOW TO LEARN

British industry has far too many job vacancies which cannot be filled for lack of young people with the necessary technical skills. Schools have serious difficulties with rebellious teenagers who are bored with the classroom, and who make useful learning difficult for their fellows. It is not surprising, therefore, that the idea should be floated from the National Association of Head Teachers that the school-leaving age should be lowered from 16, perhaps to 14, to enable young people to switch to technical training, with work experience, both to equip them better for jobs, and arguably to engage their willing attention more successfully than the conventional school succeeds in doing.

Yet this proposal is one that needs to be rigorously tested against clear criteria. To start with, if there were any suggestions that a pupil of 14 should be free to leave school and to decide for himself, or herself, whether or not to move on to technical training, the proposal would not even be worth reply. School-leaving on these terms at 14 would simply inflate the unemployment statistics and the cost of social security while exacerbating the problem caused by the lack of skills. It would augment

the number of the unskilled, and undermine the Government's policy of ensuring that every school-leaver of 16 should now be assured of training until 18.

This, however, is plainly not the approach of those who are now suggesting that children should be able to leave school earlier.

What they have in mind is that pupils of 14 or 15 should be free to switch from school to technical or vocational training, either in technical colleges or apprenticeships. On the face of it, this seems a much more constructive suggestion, since it would be designed to equip young people with the skills industry needs and they so often lack. Yet even this approach is by no means as unquestionable as it may superficially appear to be.

Increasing attention has recently been given to the failure of the British educational system to train the young in the skills necessary to fill the vacancies which particularly exist in the new technology-based industries. On the other hand, when this question was considered lately in a consultation between educationists (from schools, technical colleges, universities and local authorities) with representatives

Backbench pressure blocked the attempt to reduce the tax privileges of pension funds, and the Chancellor made little secret of his discontent. Tax relief on mortgages remains protected by the prime minister. A resident's tax (the discreetly renamed plan for a poll tax, which it was feared might be interpreted as a tax on voting) hangs over us; yet the formidable difficulties involved have not been thought out within government, still less aired in public.

When the dust has settled, there will remain monuments to the reforming endeavours of the Thatcher government. Some minor taxes have disappeared altogether; others have been improved. If the Chancellor manages to see through his plan for family taxation, based on transferable tax allowances, it will be a notable achievement.

But he has begun late, and his plans show signs of uncertainty. On Tuesday night, Mr Lawson intimated a preference for retaining separate tax and national insurance systems, on the grounds that national insurance is "contributory" - that personal contributions and benefits are genuinely related. This is a nonsense unworthy of the Chancellor; one contradicted, moreover, by the changes in national insurance he himself made in his latest budget, and those his colleagues are proposing to make in social security. He should not pre-empt his own green paper.

Even if it were profitable (or practicable - given existing commitments, such a change would take four or five years to accomplish) the insensitivity of such a recommendation, mere weeks after the spectacle of mass starvation projected into his drawing-room, defies belief. When America's Reagan foresees a time when we should watch each other starve by television, I thought him guilty of hyperbole. He was not - it has happened.

Yours truly,
MARTIN LYNCH,
29 Boileau Road, W5,
May 19.

The NAHT has done a useful service in opening up a wider debate on these issues. But they in turn have to be asked whether they have thought out their ideas. Change of the sort they seem to have in mind needs careful and rational justification; getting trouble-makers out of the classroom is not justification enough.

Plundering of the Falklands fish

From Mr Simon Lyster

Sir, I was delighted to see today's leader (May 28) on the Falklands fishing question. More than 15 months ago I wrote an article in your Sunday edition on the urgent need for controls to prevent depredation of Falklands fishing stocks by foreign factory fleets. Then there were about 50 trawlers operating in the area, and most of the vessels were Polish or Spanish. Now there are some 200 ships from an assortment of different countries, but the most alarming development is the sudden escalation of the Japanese fishing effort in the last six months.

If proof was needed that Falklands fish stocks are in serious danger, surely this is it. Japan has a record for plundering the world's marine living resources that is second to none, and there is every indication that Japan intends to increase its Falklands operations still further next season.

The negotiation of a multilateral fisheries agreement is an admirable objective, but only if it can be done extremely rapidly. Serious damage to Falklands fish stocks has probably already been done, and neither the fish nor the penguins, which need fish for food, can afford another year's free-for-all. It is ironic that the Government should make encouraging noises about tourism in the Falklands yet at the same time allow the destruction of the food base of the wildlife upon which successful tourism depends.

If an agreement cannot be quickly concluded, the Government must take unilateral action. Provided it is clear that this is purely an interim step pending negotiation of a longer agreement, it will be very difficult for anyone to criticise either here or in Buenos Aires.

Indeed, I returned from a conference in Argentina last three weeks ago, and the Press there was even more graphic in its sense of outrage at Britain's appalling stewardship of the Falklands' natural resources than it is here. Will the Government please wake up? Yours faithfully,
SIMON LYSTER, Honorary Secretary, Falkland Islands Foundation, c/o World Wildlife Fund - UK, Panda House, 11-13 Ockford Road, Godalming, Surrey, May 28.

An export fallacy
From Mr Martin Lynch

Sir, As a parliamentary Mr Woodrow Wyatt was rarely given to private reflection before public utterance. His article, "How Whitehall sells Britain short" (May 18), shows how little a different milieu, another political philosophy and a new prefix have changed him. Our industry and foreign exchange earnings can benefit from an export only if it is paid for in the same way as a reasonable time. Sir Woodrow castigates Whitehall for failing to compete with, or pre-empt, Japanese and German agencies in providing subsidies for exports partly by official credits, partly by the aid programme, and partly by "unorthodox arrangements" such as throwing in "on the side" spare parts for nuclear reactors. Has he considered where such a competitive scramble for "superior" credit terms will lead?

In the short term, it is very tempting to indulge in it, and the frustration of a British exporter who is undercut by foreign credit terms is bitter. The end of this road, however, as we have already seen so often, is an insupportable level of external indebtedness for the recipient country, the arrival of the brokers from the International Monetary Fund, and one rescheduling of debt after another - in short, the exporting countries end up paying for the supplies they need and might as well have financed them by outright grants in the first place.

Sir Woodrow says that, in the interests of subsidising these phantom exports of advanced capital goods to still-primitive economies, "our approach to overseas aid... must be transformed" (or, practically - given existing commitments, such a change would take four or five years to accomplish) the insensitivity of such a recommendation, mere weeks after the spectacle of mass starvation projected into his drawing-room, defies belief. When America's Reagan foresees a time when we should watch each other starve by television, I thought him guilty of hyperbole. He was not - it has happened.

Yours truly,
MARTIN LYNCH,
29 Boileau Road, W5,
May 19.

Levin on Thatcher
From Mr J. W. Williams

Sir, Mr Levin (feature, May 21) has retained, in the face of overwhelming mediocrity and the self-serving pragmatism of an electoral political system, a vision of how things could be... it.

Labour and the black communities

From Mr Narendra Makanji

Sir, The debate within the Labour Party is neither about the definition of who is black nor is it about the selection of black candidates as implied by two of your recent correspondents (May 22 and 28). It is about the glaringly obvious under-representation of black Labour Party members at all levels. This phenomenon is most dramatically seen in the make-up of the parliamentary Labour Party and the national executive committee, both of which are totally white and overwhelmingly male.

For a political party that is pursuing equality and is avowedly anti-racist, this has to be corrected. The power has to be shared and mechanisms need to be devised so that black communities suffering similar injustices can be convinced that the Labour Party is serious about this struggle for equality.

Black communities in Britain are organized in many different ways pursuing varying objectives. There

are no challenges, say, to the Indian Workers Association or the West Indian Standing Conference; these and other such organizations are here to stay. If racism exists within our society, then it is right that those at the receiving end should be able to develop collective ideas and strategies in the absence of outsiders. These ideas and strategies would need to be channelled into the political arena; hence the need for a constitutional framework that facilitates such a process.

The Democratic Party in the USA and the New Zealand Labour Party both have constitutional avenues for their black members as both the parties have learnt a long time ago the distinction between self-determination on the one hand and separation and exclusion on the other.

Yours for socialism,
NARENDRA MAKANJI,
Secretary,
The Labour Party Black Section,
39 Chippinham Road, W9.

Freeing innovation

From Professor Peter Fellgett

Sir, The removal of the right of first refusal of the British Technology Group (BTG, formerly NRDC - National Research Development Corporation) on inventions arising from research supported by the research councils and in similar ways has been hailed as a great new freedom for British innovation, or even as a charter for academics to make money. The reality is different.

Some inventions are already covered by patents before the development stage which used to bring them within the purview of BTG-NRDC. Moreover, for at least a decade strong advocacy by the inventor has been required to induce NRDC or BTG to take up an invention. Thus the supposed monopoly is more apparent than real and its legal removal will have minimal effect.

The real problem is that it is now too expensive for an individual to support a patent; if it is of real value it will require international protection, and this is probably beyond the

resources of a university. Moreover, if an invention is this valuable it is likely to be attacked or infringed and a university simply does not have the administrative, legal and financial muscle to defend it. Potential infringers, even in other countries, are, however, reluctant to take on a national corporation.

Thus there is an essential role for a national patenting agency if the country is to gain the full advantage from its inventiveness, and it is economic rather than legal requirements that give such an agency its monopoly.

What is more dubious is whether this effective monopoly should be linked, as it is with BTG, to a requirement to concede management to the patenting agency. This is the question that needs to be investigated if British inventiveness is to enjoy real freedom.

Yours faithfully,
PETER FELLOTT,
The University of Reading,
Department of Cybernetics,
Earley Gate,
Whiteknights,
Reading,
Berkshire,
May 23.

Kites in peril

From the Reverend Charles Jeffries

Sir, Mr Peter Black's letter (May 21) regarding the robbing of red kites' nests comes as no surprise.

I picked up a book, published as recently as 1983, giving map references to all red kites' nests found in Wales during this century. I wrote at once to the author, who styles himself a "catologist" (i.e., one who studies birds' nests), asking him to desist from publicising such data at a time when so many people delight in taking the eggs of rare birds, and the protection of nests is so difficult.

I did not receive a reply nor did I expect one, since the preface to his book fully expresses his attitude: "Certain persons appoint themselves 'protectors' of birds and forbid others, usually more competent ornithologists, to study birds at close quarters."

Yours faithfully,
C. J. JEFFRIES,
7 Charlton Road,
Weybridge, Surrey.

Verdict on Sundays

From the Reverend Canon Raymond S. Wilkinson

Sir, A year ago, the Government passed a Bill which effectively means that divorce may be applied for a year after marriage. Those of us - and they are many - who protested that this would be a disastrous shaft against family life and proper standards were brushed aside. That we were right is already being made abundantly clear to parish priests, like myself, who are being confronted with a large increase of broken homes pursuant to this legislation.

Now, the first reading of legislation to remove all restrictions on evening and Sunday shop-opening hours has been passed. There is general agreement that the current state of the law is unsatisfactory because it is arbitrary. There is, however, far less general popular agreement that the best way forward is to scrap all restrictions as the Government proposes.

This removal would mean that shop assistants will have to work on Sundays if they are to be seen as loyal employees. Indeed such a thesis has already been put to its staff by one local multiple store here.

This would obviously apply to managers and supervisors also. In a town such as this, where the parish church stands in the centre of things and attracts large numbers to worship (not least from shop employees) we shall without doubt see a great change. Sunday will

become another traffic-ridden Saturday, and the town centre will become restless and busy and noisy. Many, apart from churchgoers, will regret the loss of Sunday as a break from routine.

The Government of the day seems to pay scant heed to what people generally think about these great changes in our society; and there was no inclusion of them in the election manifesto. But this increasingly pagan and materialistic society may well live to regret bitterly these current enactments.

Yours sincerely,
RAYMOND S. WILKINSON,
The Rectory,
Solihull, West Midlands.

Janus effect

From Mr Gershon Ellenbogen

Sir, "Unarguable" is an unfortunate example. A relatively recent word (the first citation in the OED - where it is not defined - is of 1891), it clearly should mean the negative of arguable, i.e., incapable of being argued. But it is frequently used in the opposite sense of incontestable, indisputable.

This misuse impoverishes the language. For whereas there are other words to express the improper sense (e.g., the two mentioned above) there is no other word that expresses "unarguable" in its proper meaning.

I am, etc,
GERSHON ELLENBOGEN,
2 Gray's Inn Square, WC1.

with the best of them, is of little importance. Everything is subsumed within her belief in her mission to change our society for the better, and becomes in some magical way sanctified and made clean. But it is not, however much she or we wish to believe it so.

The world, fortunately or unfortunately, does not work like that. It has its own deeper truths and its own greater purpose. The danger that comes from following such a leader is realized when eventually the heroic vision reaches its frantic apogee, stalls and falls back on to hard earth.

Those of us who do not entirely dismiss the lessons of history have noted that when that happens a lot of people get hurt.

Yours sincerely,
J. W. WILLIAMS,
15 Oakthorpe Road,
Summertown,
Oxford,
May 21.

ON THIS DAY

MAY 30 1842

On five occasions Queen Victoria was accompanied by a pistol at her person. Her assassins were Edward Oxford (1842); John Francis (1842); John Bean (1842); William Hamilton (1849) and Rodrick Maclean (1882). In addition one Robert Pate hit her on the head with a cane in 1860. On each occasion the Queen's calmness and bearing evoked the admiration of her people.

ATTEMPT ON THE LIFE OF HER MAJESTY.

At half-past 6 o'clock the Queen, accompanied by her Royal Highness Prince Albert, was proceeding down Constitution Hill, towards the palace, Colonel Arbuthnot doing duty as Esquire in Waiting, and riding near to the hind wheel of the Royal carriage, and Her Majesty had arrived within 300 yards of the palace when a young man, apparently about 19 years of age, advanced from the railings and presented a pistol at Her Majesty, who was seated in an open carriage. The powder was observed to flash in the pan, and in another instant, before the miscreant could have time to put fresh cartridges in the pistol, a 2nd battery of Scotch Fusilier Guards, quartered at Portman Street barracks, and who happened to be casually passing "binned" him - that is, laid hold of his arms at once in this position he hurled the young man towards the Palace, and two or three other soldiers coming to his assistance, in less than two minutes from the time of the attempt he was housed in the Palace, being taken in to the lodge.

The pistol was what is commonly called a holster pistol, with flint lock. No questions were put to the prisoner, who made no attempt to speak, and in the course of a quarter of an hour he was taken out of the Palace, through the Esquire's entrance and put into a cab, Inspector Russell, one of the officers on duty at the Palace, and the soldier who had arrested him accompanying him.

The prisoner was taken off at a rapid rate to Gardiner's lane station house, where he remained but a very few minutes, when he was taken to the House of Commons.

It is stated above that a soldier was the first person to capture the prisoner; such, however, we learn upon further inquiry, was not the fact. A policeman of the A Division, on duty on Constitution Hill, had, about a quarter of an hour prior to the occurrence, noticed the prisoner leaning on the pump, and was persuaded by the somewhat strange behaviour of the prisoner, to watch him. It being his (the constable's) opinion that he intended to destroy himself. As the Queen's carriage was coming in the direction of the Palace from Hyde Park, the constable noticed the prisoner vacate his post and fumble in his pockets. He (the constable) hastened towards him, having a presentiment that something was about to happen, and when within 10 yards of him he fired a pistol in the direction of the Royal carriage.

The policeman immediately seized him, and was assisted almost immediately afterwards by a soldier. He was then, we have before stated, hurried off to the Palace, where he was examined by a doctor, and found to be a quantity of loose powder in one of his waistcoat pockets. The pistol is a small and common one with a flint lock; it was examined and declared by several competent judges to have been recently discharged, and it is believed that it has been loaded with slugs. The name of the prisoner is John Francis. He is 30 years of age, his height five feet five inches. His person somewhat corpulent; bearing notwithstanding the latest circumstance a very strong resemblance to Osear, the first dressed in a dark frock coat rather too large for him, a light waistcoat, black stock, with a pin in it, drab trousers, boots, and a wide-brimmed hat.

Several of his relations and acquaintances describe him as being of a very quarrelsome disposition.

Handling waste safely

From Dr L. E. J. Roberts, FRs

Sir, Your correspondents, Mr Reddish and Mr Cousins (May 10), can be reassured that the theoretical predictions of the spread of radioactivity from the disposal site at Aldermaston in the North Alderbury area are based on experimental studies. The most recent accounts occur in the reports published by the Nuclear Energy Agency of the OECD.

Attempts have been made by German, US and UK workers to detect and plot the distribution of radio-isotopes arising from these disposals, but none have been detected; the experimental results therefore indicate zero spread of activity from the site.

Measurements of the low levels of radioactivity in the English Channel are regularly made and recorded by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in their annual reports. Again, no radioactivity has been detected which can be ascribed to the previous disposal of solid wastes in the Hurd Deep.

Yours faithfully,
L. E. J. ROBERTS, Chairman,
Nuclear Industry Radioactive Waste Executive,
Harwell,
Didcot,
Oxfordshire,
May 16.

Of human bondage

From Mr David Hudson

Sir, There are occasions when piglets are born with a congenital defect called played legs (usually the back ones). A Post Office rubber band, doubled and placed around both legs for a couple of days, often puts them in their correct alignment and the animal makes a complete recovery.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID HUDSON,
Widley Road,
Kidd Lane,
Wilton,
Brough,
North Humberside,
May 21.

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Lloyds breaks mould with merchant bank

For long the odd man out among the clearing banks through its lack of a separate merchant banking subsidiary, Lloyds Bank is preparing for the City revolution by setting one up. It is drawing together various merchant and investment banking activities, hitherto carried out in different parts of the group, to form Lloyds Merchant Bank. This will be capitalized initially at £55 million; a further £25 million has been earmarked for a primary gilt dealer.

In contrast to the other clearers, Lloyds has not bought into the stock market by paying large amounts of goodwill for firms whose business is set to change significantly. At present it does not even have plans to become a market-maker in equities, although it may eventually provide an execution service.

The new merchant bank's activities will include corporate finance, fund management, a broad range of international capital market activities as well as export finance and development capital.

Putting them all under one roof, Lloyds believes, will help to overcome an identity problem and also make it easier to pay salaries inevitably way out of line with clearing bank scales.

Furthermore, Lloyds reckons that the home-grown approach is not only much cheaper but leads to less overlap and also avoids many of the cultural problems arising from acquisitions.

The Lloyds approach is certainly cheaper. Barclays, for instance, is capitalizing Barclays de Zoete Wedd at about £220 million initially, having already paid probably over £100 million of goodwill for its broker and jobber. Of course Lloyds is not being as ambitious as Barclays. It is opting for a more selective approach instead of aspiring to compete across a broad front on the securities side. It will be fascinating to see whose strategy works out best.

Legal niceties over bond-washing

When the Treasury jumped on "bond-washing" in advance of the Budget, it provoked plenty of speculation as to its choice of timing. Conspiracy theories get a free run in the steamy atmosphere of pre-Budget anxiety, and explanations abound as to what the Chancellor intended to signal by this move. As so often, the accident theory of history proved more reliable; all the Chancellor was doing was obeying those lawyers who alarmingly advised him that he was obliged to announce the decision as soon as he had actually reached it.

Not all tax decisions, of course, are subject to such legal constraints, otherwise the Chancellor would be obliged to make up his Budget at the last minute, rather than taking most decisions in January and letting us stew for a couple of months. But the crackdown on "bond-washing" involved tax changes relating to gifts and the lawyers reckoned he was debared from keeping secret a tax decision involving government securities.

Yesterday, therefore, the Government attempted to clear the legal air by announcing that in future it would consider itself free to decree the timing of announcements on whatever decisions it cared to make - adding hastily that none was, of course, in the pipeline right now. You could take the view that whatever the law says the Treasury could in practice do whatever it liked, and no one would be the wiser; but it is a pleasing tribute to the power of the government "leak" that it feels obliged to consider such legal niceties. Or you could take the view that it is a lot of fuss about nothing; the consequence of allowing all those lawyers to invade Whitehall, in the wake of the privatization programme.

Dollar fall bad for debtor nations

What would be the best conditions for easing the debt problems of the developing nations? Not an early and sharp fall in the dollar, according to new projections from CISI-Wharton Econometric Forecasting Associates.

The forecasters examined the outlook for Brazil, South Korea and Egypt, each one a particular debtor nation type, under different economic assumptions.

Brazil is highly vulnerable to changes in interest rates, with 35 per cent of current account debits accounted for by interest payments and 80 per cent of its debt in variable interest loans. It benefits, however, from lower oil prices, 30 per cent of total imports being oil.

At the other end of the scale, Egypt has only 10 per cent of its debt in variable interest loans, and only 13 per cent of current account debits are interest payments. But, with a third of exports accounted for by oil, it is a clear loser from lower oil prices. South Korea is in the middle of the two extremes.

Despite this, the CISI-Wharton results show clearly that, in all three cases, a sharp dollar fall is bad news. Such a fall would be accompanied, in the view of the forecasters, by a tightening of monetary policy and higher interest rates in the United States, and a world trade slowdown.

A sharp drop in oil prices over the next year does slightly better for the debtor countries, with the obvious exception of Egypt, by boosting world trade. This comes out as the best option for South Korea and second best for Brazil.

Willis brings political gifts into the open

Willis Faber may well set off something more than it anticipates by deciding to tell shareholders in advance about their intended political contributions rather than merely expecting investors to rubber-stamp them along with the rest of the past year's accounts. This is a move in the right direction.

But the insurance broker is not actually planning to seek formal shareholder approval in advance and may well find itself and others under political pressure to go further following the change in the law on trade unions' political funds.

This may not obviously present too much difficulty for the Conservative Party. The majority of individual investors are almost certainly Conservative supporters and might wish, for instance, that the top 100 quoted companies contribute far more than the £932,000 revealed in a count for the *Accountancy* magazine (plus £22,000 for the Alliance parties).

There is more to it than that, however. Some institutional investors may well feel that they could not support such donations following the highly restrictive ruling over the investment discretion of pension funds in the recent Scargill/NCB pension fund case. That could have a growing effect on the many large companies in which institutional holdings dominate the shareholder list.

Logically, a strict view that institutions must act as a purely economic man would also question some of the £26 million of charitable contributions totted up by *Accountancy*, especially the more altruistic gestures and the chairman's favourite opera company.

Central Office and the arts lobby need not be too worried, however. Insurance companies and banks clearly do not feel bound by the legal constraints on pension funds. Many of these institutions are themselves among the larger patrons of the Conservative Party and the more artistic charities.

BL faces struggle to keep market share, says Bide

By Jonathan Davis, Business Correspondent

BL's first quarter trading results have been encouraging, Sir Austin Bide, the chairman, said yesterday. But he said that the State-owned motor group faces a "challenging year" in which maintaining its market share will be "very difficult".

Speaking at the company's annual meeting in London, Sir Austin refused to give figures about BL's financial performance so far this year. He said, however, that the company's results were better than in the first quarter of last year, even allowing for the fact that BL then had the benefit of profits from Jaguar, the luxury car maker which was privatized last summer.

Last year's poor financial performance, which saw BL slump back into loss at all levels, was only "a temporary setback in our recovery" he said.

"However," he said, "the severe trading conditions across most sectors of our business will

make maintaining this position very difficult, particularly if our competitors intensify still further their incentive programmes, despite already incurring heavy losses themselves".

"The current high interest rates are also a concern. They have a direct impact on our costs and affect the purchasing ability of our customers. 1985 will be a difficult and challenging year".

According to BL, Land Rover/Leyland achieved better sales in the first quarter, while Austin Rover, its volume car division, held on to its market share in the competitive British market.

The key issue of BL's corporate plan has still to be resolved, but a decision from the Government is imminent. Sir Austin said that the approval process was "at a very advanced stage".

The corporate plan has been circulating in Whitehall for



Sir Austin Bide: high interest rates a concern

more than five months, and has been subjected to an unprecedented degree of scrutiny by the Department of Trade and Industry, the Treasury and Mrs Thatcher's policy review unit in Downing Street.

BL has been under strong pressure to cut back its £1,800 million investment plan,

prompted by officials' fears that BL's faltering sales performance could leave the company stretched to meet its spending targets.

Sir Austin rejected criticisms from Mr Noel Falconer, whose BL Individual Shareholders Society has been a long-standing critic of the company's performance. Mr Falconer claimed that BL's pretax profits performance was £100 million worse than it appeared, and also implied that productivity was getting worse rather than better.

Sir Austin said that BL had made "very real progress" with Austin Rover producing 47 per cent of cars made in Britain. Managers and employees were making "enormous efforts" to help recovery.

Among the key issues that will be resolved when the Government finally approves BL's corporate plan is the extent of its future collaboration with Honda the Japanese motor company.

Whitehall is drawn into boardroom battle

By Patricia Wheatcroft

The boardroom row at Phoenix Timber Group is becoming increasingly bitter and is now believed to involve the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Mr Norman Tebbit.

Mr Tebbit is apparently being asked to prevent Phoenix directors from attempting to discover the identity of beneficiaries of certain trusts which have large holdings in the company.

These holdings are being voted by their trustee, Mr Michael Hermann, in concert with a group of shareholders who wish to appoint three new directors to the Phoenix board and effectively take control of the company without making a bid for it.

Mr Hermann is a director of Phoenix and his action is being vigorously opposed by the chairman, Mr Dennis Cook, and the remaining two Phoenix directors.

The Phoenix board will today send all shareholders the details and date of an extraordinary meeting requisitioned by Mr Hermann and his colleagues, who together hold about 30 per cent of the Phoenix shares. More than half of those shares are in Mr Hermann's trusteeship.

The Phoenix board wants to discover the identity of the beneficiaries to check whether Mr Hermann has consulted them about how he should vote the stake. Mr Hermann, however, is believed to be arguing that the identity of the beneficiaries should not be revealed, hence his appeal to the Secretary of State.

Mr Hermann has been employed by Phoenix for 10 years and has been a director for the last year. He says he believes the company needs the support of some non-executive directors, hence his decision to join with the three businessmen who wish to join the Phoenix board, Mr Geoffrey Hoffman, Mr David Edelman and Mr Michael Tebbit.

Phoenix has asked the Takeover Panel to look at the regularity of a situation which could allow a group of people to take control of a company despite having just 30 per cent of the shares.

Mr Hermann says: "We are not trying to take the company over. We merely want to strengthen it".

Euro Ferries calls for £72m

By Cliff Feldham

European Ferries, the Channel ferry operator, issued a challenge to the Channel tunnel proposals yesterday by asking its shareholders for almost £72 million to expand its fleet of ships.

Mr Ken Siddle, the chairman, said there was no need for a tunnel or a bridge but added: "Our biggest fear is that the tunnel will cause the project to happen and the sheer size of the problem created could force rescue subsidies of a magnitude that would represent very unfair competition to existing operators. We must and will fight this folly."

European Ferries is in the throes of a £30 million programme to turn four existing ships into "jumbo" sized ferries better able to cope with the growing coach business across the Channel. Another £70 million has been earmarked for two or three new larger ferries to enter service on the Dover-to-Calais route in 1987.

The group has only just bought the Normandy Ferries fleet for £12.5 million, breaking into the Dover-to-Boulogne route which is more popular for day trippers than Dover to Calais.

But Mr Siddle, in announcing the rights issue, told shareholders it was too soon to give a hint of likely results on the ferry business for this year because

more tourists were booking their trips later than before. However, the freight operation was doing better and a "reasonable" result is expected.

The group's spending plans also take in Felixstowe Dock to boost its container capacity.

Mr Siddle says the group's overall prospects look excellent. Last year's profits were £44.7 million.

The cash call is in the form of new convertible shares carrying a 6% per cent coupon which can be exchanged for ordinary shares from 1988 at a conversion price of 156.25p against yesterday's market price of 139p, down 3½p.

Tempus, page 17

Oil import cut helps trade balance

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Britain's trade balance improved sharply last month, as oil imports dropped by £477 million. Visible trade was in deficit by £277 million and the current account in surplus by £123 million.

This compared with a trade deficit which was revised up to a worst-ever £399 million for March and a current account deficit of £355 million. For the first four months of this year, the current account was in

surplus by £37 million, while visible trade was in deficit by £1,625 million.

The improvement in April was mainly due to a £653 million fall in imports from the March record of £7,827 million to £7,174 million. Oil imports fell by £477 million as re-stocking by oil companies came to an end and the Central Electricity Generating Board's special imports of oil during the coal strike ceased.

Capital goods imports, which surged in March, fell back by £69 million after the end of the 1984/85 financial year.

Exports rose £68 million to £6,896 million, just below the record £6,915 million achieved in February. This was despite a £34 million fall in oil exports.

In the latest three months exports, excluding oil and eratics, were up 3 per cent in volume. Imports rose 2 per cent.

Tempus, page 17

Growing profits

Harrisons & Crosfield, the overseas plantations group, lifted profits from £56.6 million to £83.2 million in the year to December 31. The dividend is up from 17p to 20p.

Tempus, page 17

£4.6m recovery

Thomas Borthwick, the meat trader, staged a £4.6 million turnaround to profits of £3.7 million before tax in the half year to March 31, against losses of £888,000. Turnover was up from £259,000 to £271,000 and the company hopes to pay a dividend at least equivalent to last year's 0.5p. Tempus, page 17

Payout raised

Tate & Lyle is increasing its interim dividend by 1p to 7.5p for the 26 weeks to March 30, after pretax profits rose to £27 million to £31.5 million.

Tempus, page 17

Turnround at Crown Agents

By Our City Staff

The Crown Agents, whose future was thrown into doubt 18 months ago when the Sultan of Brunei removed his kingdom's oil wealth from its management, made a profit last year of £2.8 million, compared with the previous year's hefty £15.9 million loss.

The Agents' 1984 report and accounts, published yesterday, says that the management is confident of beating the targets laid down in its survival plan approved by the Government in February last year. The plan involved the Agents in selling its prestige head office in central London and cutting staff numbers from 1,200 to 860.

The Government's eventual plan is to introduce some form of private capital into the Agent's affairs, but Mr Peter Graham, Senior Crown Agent, said yesterday that the necessary legislation had been pushed back, and will not now take place until the 1986/7 Parliamentary session at the earliest.

The damage inflicted by the Sultan of Brunei's decision to drop the Agents as manager of his country's huge investment portfolio is reflected in a drop in revenue from £29.6 million to £23.3 million last year, nearly a third of its profit was attributable to the profit on the sale of its Millbank headquarters.

Capital & Counties disappoints

By Judith Huntley, Commercial Property Correspondent

Capital & Counties' preliminary results for the year ended March 25 disappointed the property sector which was expecting a higher net asset value than the 258p fully diluted figure turned in by the company.

Capital and County has a high exposure to good quality retail development but the revaluation of the portfolio showed only a 5.5 per cent

increase with a surplus of £11.5 million.

Pretax profits were £9.95 million compared with £10.46 million the previous year. Interest charges were up at £2.9 million but helped by the convertible loan stock issued.

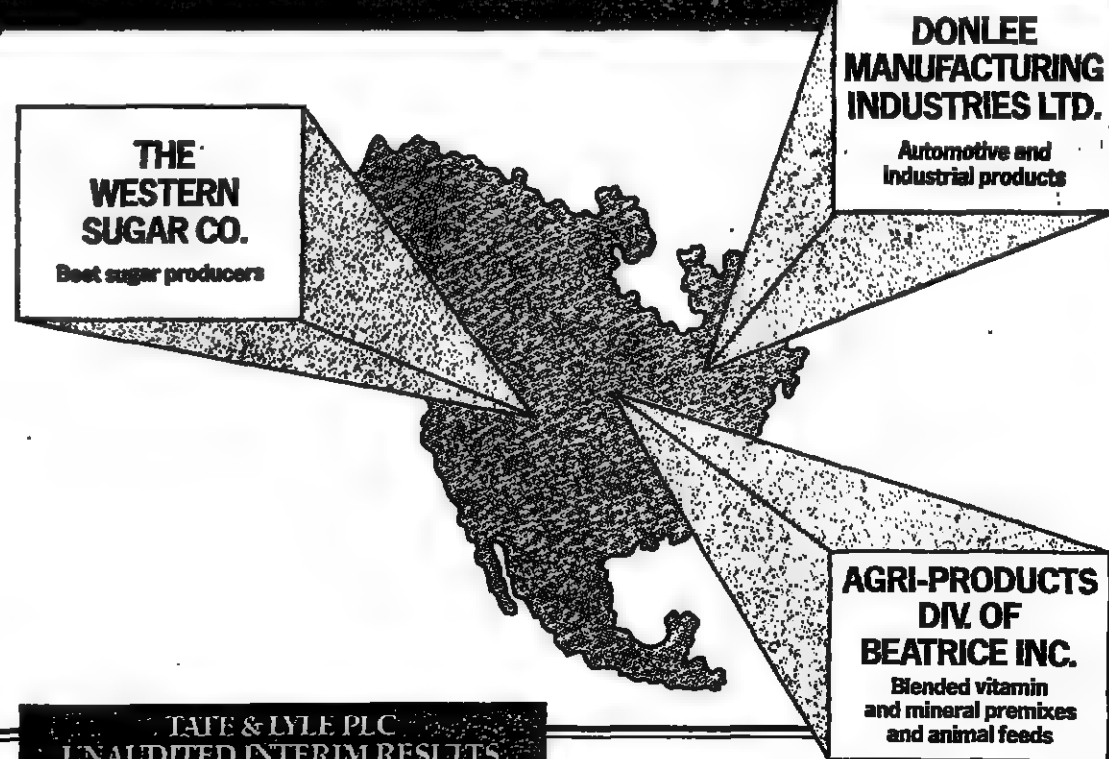
The company's exposure to the Australian market is increasing but the success of its schemes there should offset the adverse currency fluctuations.

A final dividend of 3.7p per share, against last year's 3.3p is being recommended.

MEPC, which announced its interim results yesterday, provided no excitement for the property sector. Pretax profits were £24.66 million up from £21.76 million for the half-year to March 31. The company broke even overall as a result of the sales of its properties in the US at Houston and Waikiki.

MARKET SUMMARY		
STOCK MARKETS		
FT Ind Ord	889.1 (-7.4)	
FT All Share	639.25 (-2.6)	
FT Govt Securities	81.02 (+0.15)	
FT-SE 100	1312.0 (-5.4)	
Bargains	22.273	
Datasearch USM	109.93 (-1.06)	
New York		
Dow Jones	1286.27 (-3.24)	
Tokyo		
Nikkei Dow	12,767.17 (+72.24)	
Hong Kong		
Hang Seng	1,597.71 (+26.97)	
Amsterdam	210.8 (+0.1)	
Sydney: AO	879.0 (-7.1)	
Frankfurt		
Commerzbank	1310.1 (+5.5)	
Brussels		
General	349.45 (+7.89)	
Parite CAC	230.2 (+1.4)	
Zurich		
SKA General	555.0 (-2.4)	
GOLD		
London (Bullion)		
am \$311.20pm-\$312.00		
close \$316.25-\$316.75		
New York \$315.95		
Comex (latest)		
MAIN PRICE CHANGES		
RISERS:		
W. & A. Jacobs	63 +6	
Applied Holographics	255 +15	
Aberfoyle Higgs	40 +3	
Young & Co Br'n/V	150 +10	
Plan Invest	73 +5	
Combined Eng St	132 +8	
Helical Bar	37 +2	
Cowan de Groot	38 +2	
Aquascutum	53 +5	
Pentland Int	925 +25	
Hazlewood Fds	1170 +40	
Moss Bros	485 +18	
FALLS:		
Vickers	298 -20	
Wellman	9 1/2 -3	
CIFER	14 -2	
Acorn Computer	14 -2	
Craig & Rose	900 -100	
Press Tools	53 -5	
CVO	178 -17	
Greenfield Blacks	24 -2	
Birmingham Mint	235 -5	
European Ferries	139 -3 1/2	
Marley	85 -4	
CURRENCIES		
London:		
£ 1.2642 (+0.0135)		
DM 3.8970 (+0.0040)		
Sfr 3.2750 (-0.0065)		
FF 11.8700 (-0.01)		
Yen 918.40 (-4.40)		
Index: 79.3 (+0.3)		
New York:		
£ 1.2575		
DM 3.0795		
Sfr 3.2750 (-0.0065)		
Yen 918.40 (-4.40)		
ICU: 20.574094		
SOR: 20.780382		
INTEREST RATES		
London:		
Bank Base: 12 1/2%-12 1/2%		
3-month interbank 12 1/2%-12 1/2%		
3-month eligible bills 12 1/2%-12 1/2%		
buying rate		
US:		
Prime Rate 10.00%		
Federal Funds 7 1/4%		
3-month Treasury Bills 7.25%-7.25%		
Long bond 10 1/4%-10 1/4%		

Further profit growth Major acquisitions



TATE & LYLE PLC UNAUDITED INTERIM RESULTS

	1985 26 WEEKS TO 30 MARCH	1984 26 WEEKS TO 31 MARCH
Pre-tax profits	£31.5m	£27.0m
Interim dividend per £1 ordinary share	7.5p	6.5p
Earnings per £1 ordinary share	20.9p	23.2p

The Chairman, Sir Robert Haslam, reports:-

- * Profits before taxation £31.5m for first half, 17% higher than comparable period last year.
- * Acquisitions to contribute to second half profits and substantial contribution in 1986 expected.
- * Disappointing sugar profits in UK and US caused by squeeze on margins, though trading conditions improving second half. Canada and Portugal refining profits very satisfactory.
- * Interim dividend raised by 1p to 7.5p.

The above figures do not constitute full financial statements. Copies of the Interim Report for the 26 weeks to 30 March 1985 are being mailed to shareholders. Further copies may be obtained from: C. E. McE, Secretary, Tate & Lyle PLC, Sugar Quay, Lower Thames Street, London EC3R 6DQ.

COMMODITIES

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months 7.75-7.65
months 8.50-8.40

DEPOSITS %

month	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ -8 $\frac{1}{2}$
month	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ -7 $\frac{1}{2}$
month	8-8 $\frac{1}{2}$
month	5-7 $\frac{1}{2}$
month	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ -5 $\frac{1}{2}$
month	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ -5 $\frac{1}{2}$
month	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ -10 $\frac{1}{2}$
month	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ -10 $\frac{1}{2}$
month	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 $\frac{1}{2}$
month	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ -5 $\frac{1}{2}$
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month	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ -5 $\frac{1}{2}$

Finance Scheme IV
for interest period
y. 1965, inclusive.

Comparing operating volume

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met morning
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useful 1.35-
42, while its
dex, at 79.3,
of the day),
overnight.

New York	\$1.2445-1.2680	\$1.2695-1.2880	0.50-0.47c premium
Montreal	\$1.7318-1.7482	\$1.7498-1.7482	0.41-0.32c premium

[illegible]

COMPANY NAME _____

[illegible]

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STOCK MARKET REPORT

Vickers shares slide after Steinberg sells his stake

By Derek Pain and Alison Eadie

Shares of the Vickers engineering, office equipment to Rolls-Royce group, plunged 20p to 289p yesterday as Mr Saul Steinberg, the controversial American entrepreneur, sold his 6.6 per cent shareholding in the group.

It was not immediately clear where the Steinberg shares had landed but favourite to have acquired the holding is the Kuwait Investment Office.

Mr Steinberg, operating through his Reliance Group Holdings, first appeared on the Vickers scene early this month when he disclosed a 5.5 per cent stake. Later he lifted his holding to 6.6 per cent.

Moss Bros shares added 18p to 485p on persistent bid speculation. The shares have come up from a low this year at 305p on good trading results - 1984/5 profits up 57 per cent - and hopes that planning permission for a £10 million redevelopment of the Covent Garden site is imminent. The shares are tightly held and it is now difficult to deal in parcels larger than 250 shares.

There were suggestions that he intended to put pressure on the Vickers board to float the group's Rolls-Royce business and that he was banking on a big compensation payment when the group presents its nationalization claim to the European Court of Human Rights.

He is thought to have made the major part of his Vickers investment in the 260p to 270p share range. When he went above the notifiable 5 per cent mark, Vickers shares stood at 276p.

They have since risen to 342p. Their lowest point this year is 212p.

The Steinberg sale was one of a number of factors to rattle the market yesterday. Worries that the Government's £500 million sale of its 49 per cent shareholding in Britoil was near held back prices.

Britoil shares slipped 5p to 218p, after touching 215p, as market men worried about another large privatization issue so close to the British Aerospace share sale.

Whether the Britoil sale will be made to investors at large or largely placed among institutional investors is unclear.

With the Norwegians cutting oil prices and Sheikh Yamani calling for a cut in crude oil prices, the market suffered an acute attack of the jitters around lunch-time. Uninspiring trade figures did not help sentiment.

Fears that the Yamani pronouncement could lead to an oil price collapse sent the FT SE share index tumbling from a little changed position to a fall of 11.4 points as profit taking became rife as the three-week account drew towards its close.

But sentiment improved in late trading and the index closed at 1,312.0 points, a fall of 5.4 points.

The narrower FT 30 share index was dragged back below the 1,000 points mark. At its lowest point it was down 10 points. The closing calculation was 999.1 points, off 7.4 points. The index has fallen 0.3 per cent so far this account.

Government stocks were inclined to hold steady with just a smattering of falls of up to 84¢ at the short end of the market.

C. E. Heath the insurance broker, gained 7p to 620p on the announcement that merger talks with fellow broker, Hogg Robinson, had been called off.

Hogg Robinson added 13p to 263p on the news.

Other insurance brokers were mixed with Stewart Wrightson up 3p to 602p and Willis Faber 3p firmer after its agm at 682p. Sedgwick Group eased 2p to 388p and Minet Holdings were down 1p to 206p.

Meyer International, the timber group, which had been firm, lost the lack of an Australian share build up, added on 3p to 140p after the previous day's profit taking.

Marley slipped 4p to 85p on reports of analysts downgrading profits estimates.

British Aerospace partly paid eased 4p to 219p on small scale selling. United Scientific rose another 12p to 210p, having gained 20p the previous day, on takeover rumours. Thorn EMI also continued to advance on speculation that Hanson Trust was considering bidding. The shares rose 8p to 477p.

Allied-Lyons lost 5p to 196p on profit taking and comment following results earlier this week. Tate & Lyle came back 2p to 446p on slight disappointment with the results.

USM quoted CVD Incorporated lost 17p to 178p on fears of

US defence spending cutbacks. The company was brought to the market by Phillips & Drew, the brokers, last November at 105p. Its products are used in optical devices for missile guidance and thermal imaging systems.

Energy Services & Electronics shares eased 3p to 111p, despite publication of the offer document from Brammer. Brammer argues that the services provided and the customers of both companies are in many ways complementary. ESE's base in Europe will help Brammer expand there and Brammer's base in the US will

Riley Leisure, the smoker group which slumped from profits of £2.5 million to losses of £1.2 million last year, could achieve a remarkable profits comeback in its current year, providing it is not smothered by the appearance of a bidder. With its troublesome manufacturing side sorted out, profits of more than £1 million should be in sight. The shares eased 1p to 49p yesterday. They look fairly valued.

help ESE develop a rental business there.

Brammer's extraordinary meeting to ask shareholder approval for the bid is scheduled for June 14. Buzzi's offer document for Brammer, which will insist the ESE bid is dropped, is due out next week. Brammer's share price, unchanged at 371p yesterday, has a good measure of bid premium in it having been 313p before the move for ESE and from Buzzi.

About 20 institutions, including the Prudential with 8.6 per cent, could decide the day for Brammer. Brammer reckons Buzzi's paper distribution business is entirely different from its bell bearing and power transmission distribution business. It hopes shareholders will recognize this rather than be tempted by Buzzi's money. Buzzi closed 3p down at 460p.

Dewey Group fell 3p to 197p on the appearance of a large selling order.

Imperial Chemical Industries gained 7p to 771p on reports of buoyant chemical sales.

Banks were lowered a few coppers with Royal Bank of

Scotland slipping 6p to 264p. Suggestions were heard that the Lloyds Bank share stake sale was under way.

First National Finance Corporation once again attracted speculative buying. The shares rose 3p to 97p.

Associated Fisheries advanced 3p to 108p following its 75 per cent interim profits advance.

Birmingham Midland slipped 8p to 235p on suspected local selling but Spear and Jackson continued to enjoy takeover rumours, rising 1p to 164p.

Hazlewood Foods gained 40p to 170p. Carpets International shaded to 71p.

Carless Capel slipped 5p to 170p, despite reporting a sharp jump in pre-tax profits last year from £4.9 million to £8.5 million. £1 million more than its forecast last year at the time of its abortive bid for Premier Consolidated.

Carless has written down its remaining holding in Premier by £2.7 million to reflect Premier's lower share price. Mr John Leonard, the chairman, said he had only one "very gentle" approach for his Premier stake, and it was not from Britoil, as market rumours have suggested. Carless hopes to appoint a new chief executive soon.

Continental Industries, which is planning to float its American operation, gained 25p to 925p. There was evidence of keen buying, apparently from one institutional source.

Boddington's Breweries continued to reflect the expected earnings decline which will follow its bid for Higgsons Brewery. Twice the shares tipped ahead but each time were pulled back as sellers appeared. Higgsons finished 2p better off at 225p.

Properties were dull despite the state of results. MIEPC fell 3p to 299p following its 13 per cent profit gain. Capital and Counties slipped 5p to 204p.

European Ferries lost 3 1/2p to 139p on its £27 million rights issue.

Beecham gained 7p to 365p on US support. Coalite eased 5p to 240p on disappointment after its results. Ertel fell 8p to 330p ahead of results today.

Fitch and Co, the design consultancy, jumped 10p to 445p on news that it has been appointed to design a new department store in Utrecht.

Norwich to provide £75m for City project

Norwich Union, the insurance company, has made its largest single investment in property with a £75 million funding of London & Metropolitan Estates' 225,000 sq ft office development at Rope-maker Street on the edge of the City of London.

Norwich Union is financing the development by buying the freehold of the site and granting a 150-year lease to LME, the joint company between London & Edinburgh Trust and Balfour Beatty, the construction company. LME will retain a 6 to 8 per cent stake in the project which has an estimated value of £100 million on completion.

LME bought the site from Barranquilla Investments for £19 million. Interim finance came from the Chase Manhattan Bank which was also involved in London & Edinburgh Trust's Billingham Market development for which Citibank looks the likely tenant.

The Rope-maker Street development is on the market at £30 a sq ft although the developer was working on £23 a sq ft at the time the project was conceived. Balfour Beatty has been awarded the £27 million building contract. The building has been designed to cater for banking tenants and Hillier Parker and Healey & Baker, the letting agent says five or six companies are interested.

£15m sought for dockland arena

Corporate investors are being asked to provide £15 million of the £17 million needed to finance the London Docklands Arena. The sports, leisure and entertainment centre which is being built in the Isle of Dogs enterprise zone, will be the largest in Britain.

Kleinwort Benson, the merchant bank is leading 10 million £1 ordinary shares in a private placement for L.D. Arena Limited, whose directors include Mr Ron Pickering, the sports commentator, and Mr Harvey Goldsmith, the rock concert promoter.

A consortium comprising Bovis Construction North Western, GEC Europe and Mecca Leisure, has already started work on the six-acre site. Investors will be able to take advantage of the 100 per cent industrial building allowances in the zone.

TEMPUS

Tate & Lyle sugars losses with bid talk

"How can cocoa go down?" cried the Great Winfield in the *Money Game*. But cocoa fell and the Great Winfield was wiped out. "When will sugar go up?" queries Sir Robert Haslam, chairman of Tate & Lyle, and at first sight his trading position sounds as exposed as the famous Manhattan korb trader.

Tate & Lyle has taken a long-term strategic position in physical raw sugars, worth 75,000 tonnes. Sugar prices were touching a 15-year nadir when the group invested and looked set to bound. Yet, sadly, bucking the Konradieff cycle, prices have continued to ease in the first six months, contributing to trading losses of £4 million.

At first blush, the group's dealings over the transfer of control to local interests of the Belize Sugar Industries looks equally ugly. This management buyout, Central American style, has led to losses below the line of £11.4 million.

Add into the equation poor profits on sugar refining, after competitive pressures from British Sugar et al squeezed margins, and it is hard to understand the group's enthusiasm about the second half, let alone the 1p rise in the interim dividend to 7.5p.

Yet such snap judgements can be wrong. Tate & Lyle makes a convincing case over the property profits which were £4.4 million (£1.4 million last year). On that basis the price-earnings ratio is 11 and the yield 6.3 per cent with the shares at 451p. They are doomed to a dull existence.

can be spent without breaching the borrowing limits. After the abortive bid for Brooke Bond the City may dismiss such talk as vainglorious speculation. Tate & Lyle counters this by pointing out that all of its recent buys have performed well.

The shares eased 2p yesterday to 446p. The recent underperformance has been chronic rather than acute. The group may yet surprise the market.

Harrisons & Crosfield

Harrisons & Crosfield had nearly everything going for it last year except investor confidence. Profits rose from £56.6 million to £83.2 million, beating an £82 million forecast made at the time of the bid for Pauls, but the shares failed to outperform.

The main motor last year was the plantations division where record prices for palm oil were of some help. The vigour is going to be difficult to maintain. Meanwhile, the chemicals side looks disappointing.

The inclusion of Pauls for most of this year will boost group profits but Pauls itself has limited long-term prospects, as its markets for malt and animal feeds mature.

Annual profits seem to be running at about £87 million including Pauls but excluding property profits which were £4.4 million (£1.4 million last year). On that basis the price-earnings ratio is 11 and the yield 6.3 per cent with the shares at 451p. They are doomed to a dull existence.

Thomas Borthwick

A £4.6 million turnaround to profits of £3.7 million at Thomas Borthwick, the meat trader welcome though it is, should not be taken as a pointer to continued growth.

The company still has serious problems, even after three years of self-inflicted butchery. Borthwick is still making losses in Australia, although these are falling slowly. In the first half the Australian picture was disguised by an excellent performance in New Zealand where the lambing season was earlier than usual.

The second half will not have that advantage and profits for the year might be only £1 million more than last

year's £4.2 million. At least this year there should be no help from accounting changes. Borrowings are still piled high. Indeed they are higher than at the last balance sheet date when they stood at £47 million, more than twice shareholders' funds.

The company expects them to fall to that level by September. But in present conditions it can hardly hope to trade out of its financial difficulties. A rights issue therefore, looks likely.

At 39p the shares are trading on 10 times earnings (after a 51 per cent tax charge) and have little going for them, at least until there are signs of a better quality stock.

European Ferries

The analysts sighed with pleasure as they glimpsed the European Ferries annual report. "Far more informative than usual", they gloved - that is, until they reached Note 21, at which point more hand-wringing was evident.

The note to the accounts details just how great a build-up in the group's overseas - mainly US - property interests took place in 1984. Debt is broken down by divisions, and overseas property borrowings soared from £40 million to £122 million, partly because of the £42 million spent on the Meridian office park buy in Denver. Not that the US ventures have not been profitable, American property profits last year were £14.6 million.

Net gearing nevertheless has risen to 55 per cent of equity by the year end, and with a current capital spend of about £130 million on shipping alone, plainly European Ferries needed extra capital, if only to protect its shipping cash flows from the potential depredations of Sealink. Hence the £72 million cash call.

Last night the group countered analysts' criticisms that gearing remains high even after the cash call, by forecasting its borrowing requirements into medium term. Peak gearing should be about 50 per cent by 1987. Presumably that argues a fairly successful experience on cross-Channel ferries and property over the next two years. But the market took these comments on board and marked the shares down 4p to 139p.

Redundancies fall 27% to 5-year low

Redundancies dropped to their lowest level since 1979 last year, with a 27 per cent decline on the 1983 figure. The fall in redundancies, which began in the middle of 1981, appears to be continuing.

The figures, published in the May issue of *Employment Gazette* from the Department of Employment, show that the redundancy rate dropped from

16 per 1,000 employees in 1983 to 12 per 1,000 last year. The total for confirmed redundancies was 237,000, compared with 326,000 in 1983 and a peak of 532,000 in 1981.

There was a 30 per cent fall in the redundancy rate in manufacturing and an 18 per cent drop in the service industries. The highest redundancy rate, 66 per 1,000, was in shipbuilding,

followed by aerospace, motor vehicles, metal manufacture and mechanical engineering. The rate in the coal industry was 32 per 1,000.

Lowest redundancy rates were recorded in nuclear fuel production, the only industry with no reported redundancies, agriculture, the health services and telecommunications.

'Harder line on banking capital set to continue'

By Peter Wilson-Smith
Banking Correspondent

The trend towards tougher capital requirements for banks is likely to continue, Wood Mackenzie, the stockbrokers, says in its latest publication on the clearing banks.

The broker also argues that the present system of banking supervision will need to be developed to cope with banks' changing activities.

Wood Mackenzie takes issue with a number of criticisms levelled at the recent perpetual debt issues by the clearing banks.

It says the perpetual loan stock issues, which have been transforming capital ratios, are valid as primary capital. But the broker gives warning that this new source of capital may prove ultimately to have only provided a breathing space.

The attitude of supervisors is much more rigorous than in the past because of the increasingly uncertain banking environment and "the improvement in capital ratios arising from the issues of perpetuals may count for nothing if the Bank of England requires the banks to maintain higher ratios than in the past", Wood Mackenzie says.

The broker says supervisors will have to evolve new rules to deal with the growing involvement of banks in off-balance sheet financing and the securities business.

Furthermore, although stress is being laid on a qualitative approach to capital ratios by supervisors, the pressure for international coordination could lead to more formal capital requirements being established.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	12 1/2%
Adam & Company	12 1/2%
Barclays	12 1/2%
BCCI	12 1/2%
Citibank	12 1/2%
Citibank Savings	11 3/4%
Consolidated Crds	12 1/2%
Commercial Trust	12 1/2%
Co-operative Bank	12 1/2%
C. Hoare & Co	12 1/2%
Lloyds Bank	12 1/2%
Midland Bank	12 1/2%
Nat Westminster	12 1/2%
TSB	12 1/2%
Williams & Glyn's	12 1/2%
Citibank NA	12 1/2%

1 Mortgage Base Rate.

Associated British Foods



"An excellent performance achieved by our UK operating companies"

Garry Weston, Chairman

Salient features from the Report and Accounts 1985

- * Overall group profit increased by 20 per cent.
- * UK manufacturing trading profits up 30 per cent; retail profits up 18 per cent.
- * Overseas results affected by adverse currency realignments.
- * Profit attributable slightly lower due to increase in UK tax charge.
- * Shareholders' Funds increased from £786 million to £841 million.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

	1985 £ million	1984 £ million
Turnover-excluding Premier Group	2,930.6	2,764.7
Group profit-excluding Premier Group	108.8	90.6
Investment income	23.5	23.7
Profit of Premier Group	-	12.4
Profit before Tax	132.3	126.7
Tax and minority interests	53.4	42.2
Profit attributable to the Company	78.9	84.5
Extraordinary items	10.8	87.6*
Profit for the Financial Year	89.7	172.1
Earnings per share	19.8p	21.2p

*Last year Extraordinary items included the profit on the sale of Premier Group and a provision for deferred taxation.

Associated British Foods plc
Weston Centre, 68 Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7LR.

Harrisons & Crosfield

SUMMARY OF RESULTS (Subject to Audit)

	1984 £ million	1983 £ million
Group profit before interest and taxation	97.3	65.7
Group profit before taxation	83.2	56.6
Extraordinary items	10.8	(4.6)
Attributable to Ordinary shareholders	58.0	26.0
Earnings per Ordinary share	38.8p	24.5p
Dividends per Ordinary share	20.0p	17.0p

1984 was a good year. Pre-tax profits were up by 47% to £83.2 million. Earnings per share increased by 58% to 38.8p. Ordinary dividend at 20p is now nearly twice covered. Shareholders' funds now exceed £500 million.

Plantations

Profit before interest £49.4m (1983 £22.1m)
All the Group's Plantation interests produced higher crops. This fine achievement, combined with the realisation of good prices which in a number of cases were above average, earned profits in the aggregate substantially above those reported in 1983.

Chemicals and Industrial

Profit before interest £16.0m (1983 £12.9m)
Led by British Chrome & Chemicals, profits from all the UK and European manufacturing operations were ahead of the previous year. Good performances in chemical distribution from Australia, UK and two of the American units were not matched by the companies along the North East Coast of the USA, or in Canada. In the latter country, which has suffered from lack of buoyancy in its economy for some time, our results were poor but future performance should benefit from remedial measures and the change in Government policies. Most of the Linatex operations provided a satisfactory return, with the exception of the USA where heavy costs were incurred because of investment in new branches.

ORDINARY DIVIDEND

A final dividend of 15.5p per share is recommended by the Board, making a total for 1984 of 20p per share, this being 17.6p up on the total dividend of 17p per share for 1983.

PROSPECTS

Production of the Plantation companies is similar to last year's record output and the UK and European chemical companies have started the year well but against the bad weather in the UK has affected the Timber and Building Supplies division. In North America our chemicals operations still encounter difficulties, especially from cheap imports, but they are making headway. Pauls plc's results will be included from the second quarter of 1985. The early months started slowly but, with commodity prices remaining at present levels and some alleviation of competitive pressures in the United States, we would expect an improvement in the trading environment for the Group as a whole for the rest of the year.

The comparative figures for the year ended 31st December 1983 are an extract from the full accounts for that year which have been filed with the Registrar of Companies and on which the auditors gave an unqualified opinion.

HARRISONS & CROSFIELD PLC, 1-4 GREAT TOWER STREET, LONDON EC3R 5AB



STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Shares lose ground

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, May 13. Dealings End, May 31. Contango Day, June 3. Settlement Day, June 10.
 \$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

THE TIMES Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg
1	INDUSTRIALS & K			1	100				1	100	
2	100			2	100				2	100	
3	100			3	100				3	100	
4	100			4	100				4	100	
5	100			5	100				5	100	
6	100			6	100				6	100	
7	100			7	100				7	100	
8	100			8	100				8	100	
9	100			9	100				9	100	
10	100			10	100				10	100	
11	100			11	100				11	100	
12	100			12	100				12	100	
13	100			13	100				13	100	
14	100			14	100				14	100	
15	100			15	100				15	100	
16	100			16	100				16	100	
17	100			17	100				17	100	
18	100			18	100				18	100	
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27	100			27	100				27	100	
28	100			28	100				28	100	
29	100			29	100				29	100	
30	100			30	100				30	100	
31	100			31	100				31	100	
32	100			32	100				32	100	
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35	100			35	100				35	100	
36	100			36	100				36	100	
37	100			37	100				37	100	
38	100			38	100				38	100	
39	100			39	100				39	100	
40	100			40	100				40	100	

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £40,000 in Saturday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	TOTAL

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

SPORTS (Under Five Years)									
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
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77%	1985	100	8,390	10.1
78%	1985	100	10,730	11.4
79%	1985	100	8,510	11.4
80%	1985	100	8,510	11.4
81%	1985	100	10,460	11.4
82%	1985	100	11,430	11.4
83%	1985	100	9,270	11.4
84%	1985	100	10,510	11.4
85%	1985	100	11,180	11.4
86%	1985	100	8,980	11.4
87%	1985	100	12,270	11.4
88%	1985	100	11,180	11.4

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS									
100% East	10% 1980	100%	Chg	100%	11.4%				
70% Trans C	5% 1987-90	88	0-++	0.880	11.2%				
50% Trans C	10% 1980	85	++	10.834	11.0%				
50% Trans C	15% 1981	80	++	11.849	9.8%				
50% Trans C	15% 1987-90	80	++	8.848	11.0%				
50% East	11% 1981	89	++	11.231	11.4%				
80 Trans	15% 1982	110%	++	12.025	11.4%				
70% Trans	10% 1982	80%	++	10.988	11.2%				
50% Trans C	10% 1982	85%	++	10.642	11.2%				
50% East	12% 1982	100%	++	11.000	11.2%				
111% Trans	15% 1982	111%	++	12.349	11.4%				
50% Trans	20% 1982	111%	++	11.838	11.4%				

80	Fund/	6% 1953	70%	+	7.643	8.8
80	Dress	13% 1953	112%	+	12.211	11.2
100	Trunk	14% 1954	180%	+	12.401	11.2
110	Trunk	15% 1954	180%	+	11.823	11.2
70	Trunk	9% 1954	80%	+	10.284	11.7
80	Trunk	12% 1955	100%	+	11.891	11.2
40	Gas	3% 1960-65	70%	..	4.238	7.2
70	Exec	10% 1955	95%	+	11.251	11.4
61	Trunk	12% 1955	100%	+	11.500	11.4
70	Trunk	14% 1955	120%	+	12.204	11.4
70	Trunk	9% 1955-60	80%	+	10.375	11.7
110	Trunk	16% 1956	125%	+	12.424	11.4
80	Exec	13% 1956	115%	+	11.898	11.2

71	Trans	13 1/2	1987	183	+	11,886	11.1
71	Each	10 1/2	1987	97	+	10,550	11.2
71	Trans	15 1/2	1987	125	+	10,550	11.2
100	Trans	15 1/2	1987	122	+	12,268	11.1
100	Trans	15 1/2	1988	84	+	10,729	11.1
94	Each 'A'	9 1/2	1988	25	+	10,784	11.1
99	Trans	9 1/2	1988-98	72	+	9,347	10.3
100	Trans	15 1/2	1988	125	+	12,180	11.1
100	Trans	15 1/2	1988	125	+	11,286	11.1
70	Trans	9 1/2	1988	83	+	10,601	10.5
80	Each	12 1/2	1989	105	+	71,415	75.7
77	Trans	10 1/2	1989	95	+	10,917	11.1
84	Conv	10 1/2	1989	94	+	10,858	11.1

PER FIFTY YEARS

117	Tree	12%	2000	117%	+	11,801	11.1
118	Tree	10%	1989-01	117%	+	11,938	11.4
84	Conv	8 1/4%	2001	8 1/4	+	10,816	10.8
89	Each	12%	1989-02	110	+	11,343	11.3
84	Tree	10%	2002	25%	+	10,883	10.8
100	Tree	19 1/4%	2003	123	+	11,624	11.2
89	Tree	11 1/4%	2004	8 1/4	+	10,958	10.9
87	Conv	8 1/4%	1988-04	8 1/4	+	7,261	8.4
91	Conv	9 1/4%	2004	9 1/4	+	10,472	10.4
101	Each	10 1/4%	2005	102	+	10,840	10.8
89	Tree	12 1/2%	2003-06	123	+	11,080	10.8
84	Tree	8 1/4%	2002-07	107	+	10,840	10.8
89	Tree	10 1/4%	2003-08	117	+	10,961	10.9
21	Tree	15 1/4%	2004-09	123	+	11,183	10.8

BANKS DISCOUNT HP									
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg
48 1/2	48 1/2	Trans	5 1/2	2005-12	58 1/2	4 1/2	9.988	10.00	0.012
63 1/2	63 1/2	Trans	7 1/2	2012-15	70 1/2	6 1/2	10.050	10.02	0.030
100 1/2	100 1/2	Each	12 1/2	2013-17	110 1/2	9 1/2	10.486	10.48	0.006
INDEXED									
31 1/2	31 1/2	War Lz	5 1/2	30 1/2	0	..	10.328	10.32	0.008
31 1/2	31 1/2	Comets	4 1/2	30 1/2	0	..	10.504	10.50	0.004
34 1/2	34 1/2	Conv	3 1/2	40 1/2	..	..	8.162	8.16	0.002
25 1/2	25 1/2	Trans	2 1/2	40 1/2	..	..	10.322	10.32	0.002
30 1/2	30 1/2	Conv	3 1/2	40 1/2	..	..	10.312	10.31	0.002
10 1/2	10 1/2	Trans	2 1/2	24 1/2	..	..	10.428	10.42	0.008
INDEX-Linked									
113 1/2	113 1/2	Trans L	2 1/2	1988	113 1/2	4 1/2	2.037	2.03	0.007

95	Trane E.	25	1990	100	+	2,170	4.3
111	Trane E.	25	1990	111	+	2,170	4.3
100	Trane E.	25	2001	100	+	2,080	3.7
99	Trane E.	25	2003	99	+	2,914	2.8
102	Trane E.	25	2006	102	+	2,527	3.5
98	Trane E.	25	2008	98	+	2,926	3.4
104	Trane E.	25	2011	104	+	2,089	3.4
87	Trane E.	25	2013	87	+	2,943	3.2
94	Trane E.	25	2016	94	+	2,943	3.2
95	Trane E.	25	2018	95	+	2,939	3.3
				Cross			
1985 High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	1985 High	Yld	P.

BREWERIES									
193	Alfred-Lyons	197	10.7	5.4	1				
471	Beck's	558	72.0	3.4	1				
194	Ball (Arthur)	185	7.1	4.9	1				
36	Beckman	58	0.5	0.9	1				
71	Boddingtons	73	4.1	5.5	1				
258	Brown (Mathew)	340	12.2	3.2	1				
119	Bulmer (M F)	184	7.5	4.9	1				
	Bulmer	184	7.5	2.1	1				

417	Clark County	68	+	17.1	2.8
216	Coronado (H)	68	+	17.5	2.8
426	Coronado	291	+	18.5	8.7
420	Fortnite Surco	445	+	18.0	2.8
182	General Whiskey	172	-	6.8	3.8
148	Greene King	188	+	8.4	3.8
222	Gutierrez	206	+	8.2	3.5
324	Harley & Henson	372	+	21.3	5.7
58	Highland Dist	70	+	2.9	3.7
124	Imperial Dist	132	+	6.1	4.4
57	Jack & Co	135	+	6.0	4.4
173	Merrion Thompson	89	+	2.5	3.7
173	Moore	194	+	8.8	4.4
248	SA Sherwin	320	-	2.1	2.8

126	Scott & New	130	..	8.40	5.1	10
304	Saugren	132 1/2	..	..	..	..
258	Vaux	233	..	14.5	9.1	11
184	Whitcomb 'A'	321	..	9.5	4.5	10
195	Do 'B'	222	+1	9.1	4.5	10
182	Whitcomb Inv	182	..	8.6	5.3	20
270	Whitcomb & D	328	+2	10.9	3.9	14
305	Young 'A'	210	..	9.0	4.5	78

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

80	Allied Irish	111		8.5	8.1
53	Ansbacher (Henry)	53		5.3	5.4
226	Am New 2	226		26.0	11.8
13	Bank of America	13			
226	Bank of Ireland	226		77.0	5.9
124	Bank Leontie Paris	124			
215	Bank Leontie UK	215		14.5	5.1
3571	Bank of Scotland	3571		22.1	5.5
302	Bardonia	302		24.1	6.4
365	Brown Shipley	365		41.1	2.9
468	Chater Allen	468		12.1	7.5
297	Citibank	297		2.1	7.0
407	Credit Mobilbank	407		38.4	7.8

36%	Category	126%	-1	25	5.4
49	Give	48		3.5	7.3
28	Cam Bank Notes	35			
42%	Comm Bank	57%	+1%	5.5	9.1

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

BUILDING AND ROADS

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

FINANCE AND LAND

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

FOODS

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

HOTELS AND CATERERS

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS A-D

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

ELECTRICALS

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

E-K

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

L-R

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

S-Z

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

MOTORCARS AND AIRCRAFT

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

TOBACCO

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

OIL

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

OVERSEAS TRADERS

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

PROPERTY

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

SHIPPING

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

SHOES AND LEATHER

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

TEXTILES

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COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

● Retail warehouse parks

● Manhattan rents

● Computer hall

Chesterfield up 7.5% on asset revaluation

Chesterfield Properties' 1984 results show net asset value up 7.5 per cent to 572p per share. The group's properties have been revalued at £125.63 million from £121.34 million in 1983. Pre-tax net income was £6.44 million up from £5.6 million.

Long-term prospects for the company hinge on the letting success of two large office developments. One is the 130,000 sq ft New City Court being developed with Lovell Developments, in which Chesterfield has a 75 per cent stake.

The scheme, close to the St Martin's Property Corporation's London Bridge City development, starts near London Bridge Station. Asking rents are thought to be £14 a sq ft with rates at a similar level or above, through Edward Erdman and Herring Son & Daw, the letting agents.

Chesterfield hopes to cash in on the booming City market by offering space which is attractive to financial services operations. However, crossing London Bridge to the south still represents a large barrier to such companies and there are the competing attractions of the St Martin's scheme.

Buckingham Gate the other office development in London SW1, is under way and the company hopes to see interest in this project, due for completion next year.

A final dividend of 6.5p is recommended with earnings per share at 18.83p compared with 14.91p in 1983.

Counting cost of currency ups and downs

● Currency fluctuations are a cross which property companies with heavy overseas investment, such as MEPC and Hammerson, have to bear.

Recent results from those companies show the effect they can have on net asset values. But it is not just property companies who have to handle the ups and downs of the currency markets.

The importance of currency movements and their management is relevant to all companies and is highlighted by Jones Lang Wootton, the firm of chartered surveyors, in its international property review.

Mr Keith Douglas-Mann, chairman of the firm's London partnership, said: "Productivity, export capability and buying capacity affect fluctuations in asset values. Not always apparent, the core of these assets is often real estate, whether or not it is owned by traders or leased to them by third parties."

"Not only is the true worth important in the balance sheet, in a competitive market the property itself has to be of the best design and economic for its purpose."

"The suitability and underlying value of real estate may have a more fundamental long-term effect on the financial stability of an owning or occupying organization than will its main business activity."

Jones Lang Wootton has compared the growth in office rents in 14 countries over the

last 10 to 15 years to see which locations are the top performers in sterling terms. Midtown Manhattan in New York was the star performer with spectacular rental growth in sterling terms of 24.9 per cent compared with the City of London at 6.1 per cent and the West End's 8.7 per cent.

Los Angeles, Washington and San Francisco in the US followed closely behind New York, with Australian cities making up the rest of the top 10 performers measured on the prime rent index. In the years 1970 to 1985, Dublin, Hong Kong, Central, San Francisco and Washington DC performed best in sterling terms.

Jones Lang has chosen to use the prime rent index because it says the properties within are those which will attract the institutional investor and reflect a more consistent quality between the centres surveyed.

The firm has also looked at performance in terms of local currencies. The decline of the strength of the pound since 1970 is reflected in lower mean growth rates when expressed in local currency. On this basis, the highest performers from 1975 to 1985 were still midtown New York, Washington DC and the Australian cities of Melbourne and Sydney.

In the period 1970 to 1985, Dublin, Glasgow, Hong Kong, Central and Washington DC came tops in local currency terms, while New York dropped down the list.

● Several large lettings took more than 1 million sq ft of space off the central London office market last month, according to Debenham Tewson & Chiswick's latest survey.

The pre-letting of Rosenburgh-Stanhope's Liverpool Street station development, now called Broadgate, and the letting of the Angel Centre in Islington accounted for 35 per cent of the 1.3 million sq ft taken up last month. The Chicago development at Holborn Viaduct with 60,800 sq ft was let as was the 46,500 sq ft Bevis Marks House in the City.

Available space in EC1 fell by nearly a third to 477,000 sq ft and in the City as a whole, there was an 8 per cent fall to 2.63 million sq ft. Most of the remaining space in the City is now located in EC2 and EC3.

In the West End, Mayfair saw a 31 per cent drop in available space in the last year with SW1 experiencing a 24 per cent drop. During April, there was a net addition of 1 million sq ft of office space in central London.



Dalketh House, near Edinburgh, formerly the seat of the Dukes of Buccleuch, is on the market offering 27,470 sq ft of offices. There is also 5,000 sq ft of modern space in a purpose-

designed computer hall nearby. The property, set in a country estate, was built in 1701. It was formerly used by ICI, the computer company which used it as a research centre for 14

years. The house and the computer building may be let separately and the extent of the grounds to be included can be negotiated. The letting agent is Cluttons

MFI in search of 50 sites for new stores

By Judith Huntley

While the Burton Group, aided by Sir Terence Conran, attempts to take over Debenhams, the department store chain with valuable high street and shopping centre properties, MFI, the furniture retailer which recently announced a merger with Asda, the food retailer, has announced that it wants 125 acres by the end of next year for another 1.5 million sq ft of trading space on the edge or out of town.

Mr Derek Hunt, the chairman of MFI, told 400 estate agents in London yesterday: "We have a crying need for new store sites."

The company's minimum requirement for the next 12 months is 50 sites of at least 2.5 acres and up to six acres. MFI wants to buy freeholds wherever possible but it will consider buying from developers or undertaking joint schemes with non-competing retailers where appropriate.

Mr Malcolm Shaw, MFI's property director, said the company had spent £55 million in the last year on land, buildings and fees. "We have an estimated 12 per cent of the total UK market and we intend to double that share by opening stores, expanding our product range and increasing substantially existing store sizes", he said.

The desire to increase store size is part of the reason for Burton's bid for Debenhams. And the acquisition of freehold property not only acts as a hedge against ever rising retail rents but also adds considerably to the asset base of the company.

But where MFI and other retail warehouse operators are keen to obtain sites with the maximum amount of parking and room to hold their stock, it is intriguing to hear the Burton Group say that it will sell furniture and carpets from high street locations. Habitat does this at the moment, allied with a large mail order service, but it appears to be bucking the trend for more in-town stores to do the same.

MFI, which became a public company 15 years ago, opened its first store in 1971 in a far from prime retail location. It now has 128 stores with a turnover in 1983-84 of £301 million from 3.25 million sq ft.

Mr Hunt says that it is not only the greatly increased square footage which has produced good results. Sales per sq ft have continually risen above the retail price index. A figure of £95.29 a sq ft emerges from the company's 1983-84 results compared with £32.24 a sq ft in 1974-75.

And the company says it is now inundated with inquiries from investors, which it says it is resisting. Retail warehouses were totally unacceptable forms of investment to the large institutions until recently. Now, however, as rents and values rise, they are becoming sought-after.

But a new trend in retail development, the retail warehouse park, a cluster of retail warehouses on the same site could pose a threat to older, single retail warehouse developments. At least that is the view of Bernard Thorpe & Partners, the estate agents. It has carried out a study of retail parks and concludes that as these become increasingly important in the retail hierarchy, a drop in demand from retailers for the traditional one-off unit, could cast doubt over the future value of such buildings from an occupational and investment viewpoint. This would indeed be a blow to the very expensive. In the event its other sites in the United Kingdom are a mix of in-town locations, in high streets and shopping malls.

Knight Frank acts in £2.8m New York deal

Empire State Electric Energy Research Corporation, the American company which includes electric utilities operating in New York State, New England and Canada, has taken 10,527 sq ft in the 700,000 sq ft building owned by the Durst Organisation at 1155 Avenue of the Americas, New York.

The company is paying an aggregate rent of \$3.6 million (£2.87 million) for the nine-year lease. Other tenants in the office block include New York Telephone, Citibank and Hallmark. Empire State was advised by Douglas Elliman Knight Frank, the recently-established American operation of Knight Frank & Rutley, Gronick & Co acted for the owner.

WATTS BLAKE BEARNE

NEWTON ABBOT

Mr. C. D. Pike, Chairman, reports:

Pre-tax profits exceed £4 million

- * Pre-tax profits increased by 17.3% to £4.256m compared with £3.628m in 1983.
- * Total gross dividend increased to 7.0p from 5.85p. Capitalisation issue of one Ordinary Share for every five held.
- * Profitability continued to improve during 1984 thanks to increases in exports and the sale of refined clays.
- * Re-appraisal of our management structure and marketing strategy and redefining of executive functions as a contribution towards the continued upward trend in profitability.

Annual General Meeting: 31st May 1985



Watts Blake Bearne & Co PLC

PRODUCERS OF BALL AND CHINA CLAYS

Bardon

Bardon Hill Group PLC

The Group's activities consist of quarrying and associated activities

Year to 31 March, 1985	1985 £'000	1984 £'000
Sales	33,205	28,985
Profit before tax	4,294	3,715
Profit after tax	2,459	2,200
Dividend gross per share	4.03p	3.43p
Dividend net per share	2.82p	2.40p
Earnings per share - before tax	13.78p	11.92p
- after tax	7.89p	7.06p

Points from the statement by the Chairman, RWG Tom

- Record pre-tax profits of £4,294,000.
- Dividend increased by 17.5%.
- Optimistic long term growth prospects.

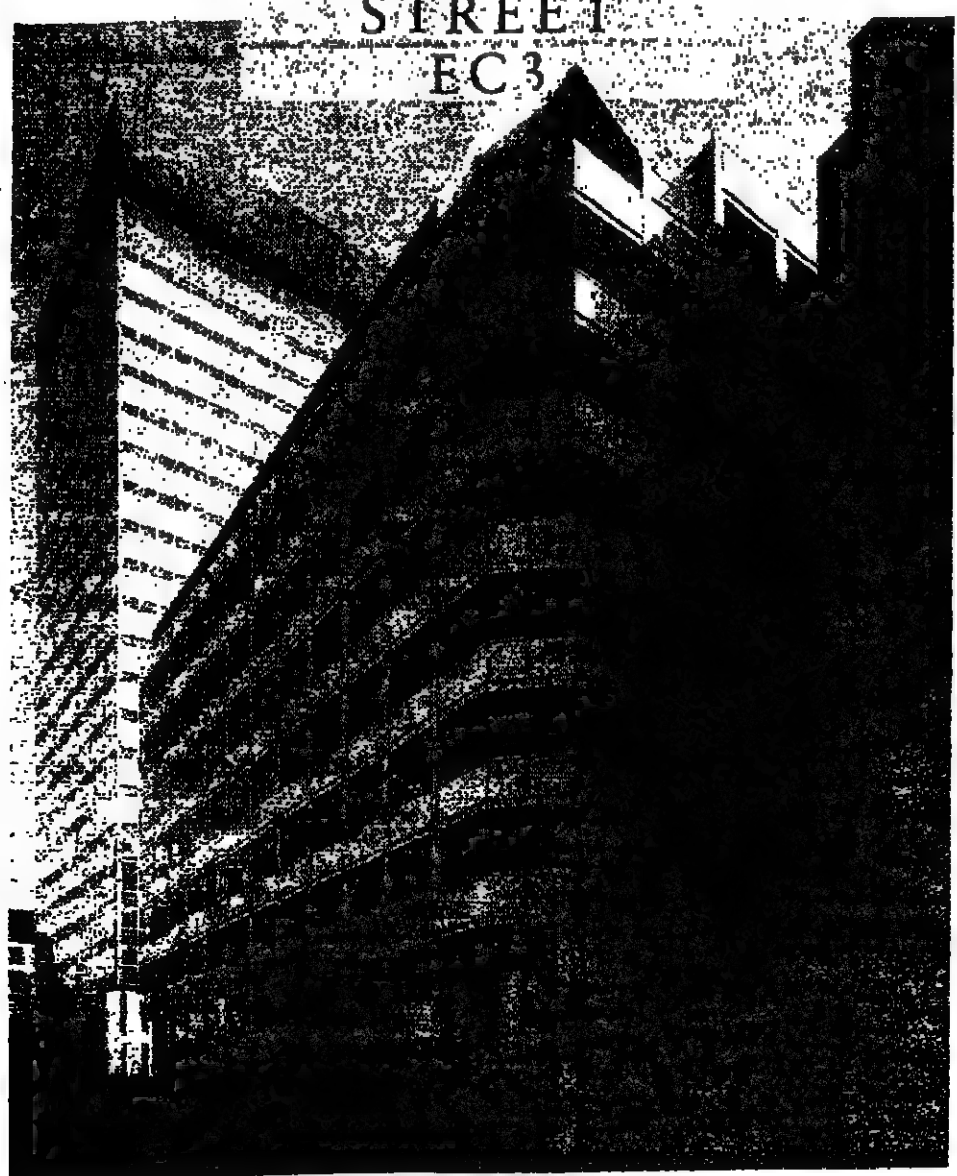
Copies of the full Report and Accounts will be available from M&BS, Iron K. J. Cox, Bardon Hill Group PLC, Bardon Hill, Leicestershire LE19 2TL. Telephone 0533 38228. The Company's Shares are traded on the Over-the-Counter Market by Grenville & Co. Ltd, 81 Lovell Lane, London, EC3N 8BB.

Unaudited Results

TO LET

SIX
FENCHURCH
STREET
EC3

TO LET



52,500 sq. ft. of new, prime air-conditioned office space.

The building will be open for inspection between 9 am and 5 pm, from Tuesday 21st May until Tuesday 11th June excluding Saturdays and Sundays and the Bank Holiday on Monday 27th May.

On the instructions of

part of the Land Securities Group.

Sole agents

Edward Erdman

23 College Hill London EC4 Telephone 01-256 3611

Great Portland buys Limco for £12.9m

Great Portland Estates has bought the Limco Group, a property investment and development company based in Croydon, Surrey, for £12.9 million.

Limco's portfolio was valued at £17.5 million in February. The entire share capital of Limco totalling 611,790 ordinary shares has been acquired on the basis of 13 Great Portland shares plus 50p cash for the Limco shares.

The Limco portfolio has 24 freeholds with 60 per cent offices, 28 per cent industrial and 12 per cent shops.

COMPANY NEWS

● KLEINWORT BENSON: A new company, KBH Oil Services, is being formed by Kleinwort, Benson and the Hutchinson Group. It will provide a comprehensive and independent agency service for oil producers. After the dissolution of SNOG, the independent North Sea oil producers will have to make alternative arrangements for the disposal of crude oil and KBH is being set up specifically to meet this.

● BRINCO (All figures in Canadian dollars): Revenues and net earnings for the three months ended March 31, 1984 were \$18.24 million and \$585,000 (£338,000) respectively. The comparative figure for 1984 for revenue was \$23.11 million and, before giving effect to increase recovery, earnings were \$1.69 million.

44-48 Borough High Street London SE1

Self contained office premises

TO BE LET

Freehold possibly available

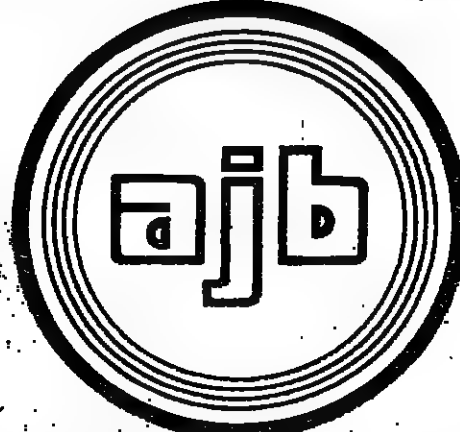
Approx. 4,818 sq.ft.

CLAREMONT PARTNERS 01-499 3933

Associated Japanese Bank (International) Limited

Extract from Audited Accounts

	28th Feb. 1985 £'000	29th Feb. 1984 £'000
Share Capital	16,400	14,800
Retained Profit	10,543	8,533
Subordinated Loans (£ equivalent)	21,024	15,257
Deposits	549,798	542,977
Loans	500,826	381,931
Total Assets	715,464	595,844
Profit before Taxation	4,012	3,302
Profit after Taxation	2,610	2,598



The Saitwa Bank Limited

The Mizui Bank Limited

The Nomura Securities Co. Ltd.

The Dai-ichi Kangyo Bank Limited

An International Consortium Bank
(Shareholders' aggregate assets well exceeding U.S.\$310 billion)
Associated Japanese Bank (International) Limited
28-30 Cornhill, London EC3V 3DA
Tel: 01-623 5661. Telex: 893691

Hopeful trio are waiting for an England call

From David Hands, Rugby Correspondent, Christchurch

England relaxed yesterday after the final match before Saturday's first international against New Zealand here. I hope they do not regret it, though Martin Green, the coach, has been seeking a day off for the players during a busy schedule. It might have been wise to decide on Saturday's test (privately if not publicly) in time for two good training sessions.

There were several bumps and bruises after Tuesday's victory over Otago, but profitable work could have been done yesterday with another intensive session today, taking tomorrow as a rest day. Instead, yesterday was a holiday, save for those few players who joined Green and his assistant, Brian Ashton, for voluntary exercises at Carisbrook before the party left Dunedin. Inevitably there will be training tomorrow, at some length, only 24 hours before the international.

The All Blacks had an unofficial workout under the direction of Dalton, their captain, yesterday and will travel some 40 miles Southbridge for their main session today. Brian Lochore, who is approaching his first major test as national coach, is not given to great secrecy, but tomorrow he will take the unusual step of training privately in what the team manager, Dick Littlejohn, described as an "in-house" session.

England's team will be

announced today and may include three new caps, since Huntman, Salmon and Harrison are pressing for places. Strictly speaking, Salmon has already earned the international arena, having won three caps as an All Black in 1981 while he was living in Wellington. He should be unique should the Harlequins' centre be named to partner Dodge in England's midfield, for no one has previously represented both countries at rugby.

Salmon's days as an All Black make him a useful consultant, and he has spent some time with Ashton discussing possible back plays. "Brian has tried to get confidence across to us," Salmon said. "If you haven't got the confidence to try pre-set moves you are going to struggle. We have done a lot of work on lines of running, trying to create space for the outside men."

Centre is only one of several positions which will be hotly debated before the team is named. The new players, believe Huntman, the Headingley loose-head prop, is nearest to the side. He went well against Otago, contributing in the loose as well as participating in a strong scrummaging performance.

The permutations are many, even within the confines of a 25-strong party, effectively 23 since Goodwin, the Mosley wing, has been unable to play since last Wednesday. His return to fitness may have come

too late for him to be involved in international selection. Everyone else is available.

In the forwards I would be inclined to play Rees and Cooke, the latter on the blind side. Rees, by his performance on Tuesday, made himself virtually indispensable even though he has a slight hamstring twinge. Cooke is required for his executive abilities as pack leader.

That would leave Hall or Teague to play No 8, rather than Huxford who was delighted to captain England against Otago but who is too slow to compete against the New Zealand back-row combination of Merton, Bobbs and Shaw. Hall might rate slightly ahead of Teague but if either plays the selectors might opt for the two tall men at lock, Dooley and Bainbridge. Then there is no room for the industrious Orwin, though it was suggested yesterday that he is strong enough to play at loose head.

Ireland prevail

Nagoya (Reuters) - Wing three-quarter Trevor Ringland continued his impressive form with two more tries as Ireland beat a Kanazawa selection 44-13 in the fourth match of their Japanese tour yesterday. Full back Phil Rainey also scored two tries but second-choice fly half Ralph Keyes was Ireland's top scorer with 16 points from two penalties and five conversions.

Britain can rule at Hickstead

By Jenny MacArthur

Britain have not won their own Nations' Cup event since 1980 but this weekend, with the home side holding their top team, the situation should be reversed. The four-day meeting, sponsored by Everest Double Glazing, starts at Hickstead today. The Everest Double Glazing Grand Prix, worth £20,000 to the winner, is on Saturday and the meeting finishes on Sunday with the Nations' Cup, to be contested by five countries.

West Germany, last year's winners, have been strongest of the foreign teams. They are led by Paul Schockemöhle on Deister, the European champion, and include Norbert Koof and Pire, the world champion. The French are trying to drive last experienced young riders but have also got Michel Robert and Lafayette, winner of the Rome Grand Prix, and Gilles Bertrand de Balanda, one of their top professionals. Sweden and the Netherlands make up the five.

Nick Skellern, who sits five riders from whom the British team of four will be selected. He is resting his top horse, St James, on whom he was runner-up in the World Cup last month, but his "second" horse, Everest Apollo, who beat the Venezuelan Jose Mosqueda champion on points at Alexandra Pavilion, on Tuesday, may well be in action again at Aston Villa against a world ranked featherweight. Cowdell wants to acquire a new horse, a Venezuelan, in addition to the one he already has in the super-featherweight - in order to challenge the winner of the Pedroza - McGuigan contest.

Syvester Mitze, who has almost certainly achieved a world ranking after defeating the world ranked Pedroza Velez, of New York, on the Cowdell side will be trying for a world title bout with Milton McCorry.

Americans confound long-held belief

More power to the fly tyer's elbow

By Conrad Voss Bark

A new electric fly tying vice has appeared in the United States, thus confounding the long-held belief that tying salmon and trout flies is purely the work of man's spinning muscles, according to an advertisement in the American Fly Tying magazine.

The vice, which can hold hooks from size six to 22, reverses, is driven by an electric motor. "...with full power variable speed control specially designed for this use. There's also an On/Off bottom stop. The work of man's spinning muscles, with no casting when released..."

That bit about no casting is reassuring, if one is contemplating such an activity. The thought of some madman power-tying silk off the bobbin at an enormous speed while the machine roasts to a halt is forbidding, to say the least. The manufacturers seem to be aware that the idea is a little off-putting for the penultimate paragraph of the advertisement reads more like a plea than an exhortation:

"...Order one now for yourself or for that special friend or loved one. It works great." Well yes, one is bound to admit that it probably does, for the Americans are highly ingenious. Premature judgements on the full power variable speed control all-

FISHING

electric fly tying vice might be unwise, if only because some of us remember that our grandfathers with their greenbait rods thought that the new split case rods were an American gimmick that was unlikely to catch on. The new vice might be a gimmick, or it might not, and perhaps we should leave the judgement to those who on the face of it are most likely to benefit from mechanical aids - the professional fly tyers.

Use anglers, however, who still have suspicious about pre-wired thread, another American invention, and who invariably spend about a quarter of an hour on a hackled blue dun, 10 minutes if we hurry, can afford the luxury of indifference.

"Ah, yes," we shall say, examining some perfect specimen of a Two Eye Spotted Fly or something of that kind tied by Mr. Deane, Mr. Collier, or Miss Valdesford. "Ah, yes, a machine-died fly, very well done of its kind, but there is really nothing to beat hand-tying for the genuine article, don't you think?" In such ways a new snobism is born.

IN BRIEF

CYCLING: The former road-race champion, Jan Raas, aged 32, of the Netherlands, has announced his return to the Ring and Bryner because of a persistent back injury. He won 147 races during his 10-year career, including three Dutch championships.

RUGBY UNION: Bedford are launching a £100,000 five-year expansion programme to improve their Golding Road ground and enlarge the facilities.

ATHLETICS: Ed Moses, the Olympic gold medal winner in the

400-metre hurdles, has withdrawn from the June 8 Arco Coliseum Games in Los Angeles because of a nagging knee injury. He is not expected to compete for three or four weeks.

RUGBY LEAGUE: John Dorahy, the top scorer for Hull Kingston Rovers when they completed the league and premier double in 1983-4, will return to Craven Park on a two-year contract. Middle back Dorahy is playing for the Sydney club, Illawarra.

Pyrar: selectors' request

GOLF: Muriel Thomson holds the top spot in the Ring and Bryner 25,554 after four tournaments, she leads Gillian Stewart (£5,057) and Dale Reid (£50,000).

GOLF: Greg Norman, of Australia, and Tsuneyuki Nakajima, of Japan, will open in the Panasonic European Open at Sunningdale on Aug 29. The event carries a top prize of £23,520.



Embroidress (left) inches out Dr Nacem in yesterday's Clayton Handicap at Brighton (Photograph: Chris Cole)

Miller badly hurt in triple fall

By David Hands

Mick Miller, the jockey, was taken to the Royal Sussex Hospital unconscious and with a broken pelvis after being stretched off the course when three horses fell in the first race at Brighton yesterday.

While the drama was going on, Alice Hill was making the best of her way home, and won by a neck from Ole Flo. Alice Hill will now run at Epsom next week in the Staff Ingham Stakes, the race named after the father of Alice Hill's trainer, Tony Ingham. Tyrone Williams, the winning rider, says needs six more weeks to lose his claim.

Embroidress made all the running in the Clayton Handicap and hung on heavily to repel the challenge of Dr Nacem by a short head. The runner-up may have been unlucky. He did not have much room to deliver his challenge in the final furlongs.

Mrs Margaret Revsley, who trains at Salterns-by-Sea, set her target for the jumping season at 10 winners and she reached that figure at Carshalton yesterday when Cleodora

afternoon interviewed all the other jockeys involved in the race. The video film showed that no one was to blame.

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Star, 7-2) cruised home by 10 lengths as the Carshalton Town Handicap Hurdle for amateur riders.

Geoff Barker partnering his 17th winner this season, pushed Cleodora Star into the lead three out. He will turn professional next season, and will ride for James Wilkinson, Mount Nugent, the 7-4 favourite, finished a well beaten sixth.

After Hawaiian Heir's four-length victory in the North West Racing Club Selling Hurdle, spartan Jayne Thompson, who partnered her father's Moon Melody into fifth place, objected to the winner for "chopping my horse after jumping the last."

The stewards, after a long deliberation, allowed the placings to remain the same. Ron Thompson, the trainer of Hawaiian Heir, said angrily: "I am disgusted with the decision."

Hawaiian Heir maintained the fine winning run of Bill Clay.

Easterby is fined £525

By David Hands

Mick Easterby was yesterday fined £525 by the Jockey Club disciplinary committee. He was given a 10-month suspension from riding after a urine sample taken from him at Kempton on February 1, 1983.

The sample was found to contain theobromine, a prohibited substance, but the committee was unable to establish the source.

Mr Hill, who finished second in the Marchioness Novices' Chase at Ayr on February 8, was also disqualified by the committee. A urine sample taken from the six-year-old was found to contain theobromine, and the committee was satisfied that the source was Super Codivine supplement.

The committee was satisfied that the substance had not been administered intentionally, and that Susan Wilson, the trainer, had taken all reasonable precautions.

Douieb's pair to come into bloom

By Mandarin

Oliver Douieb, the French trainer, based in Newmarket, has adopted the charming Gallic custom of planting a posy of flowers by the stable door of his most recent winner. Home Blade, successful at Leicester on Tuesday, was the latest recipient. Douieb should be placed in a double order of blooms after Brighton today when he, and his stable jockey, Alain Legoux, should have two scores. Metropolitan Star (3.6) and Bel Oscar (4.0).

METROPOLITAN STAR, who contests the "Top Top" Fillies Handicap, won a qualifier of the Postlethwaite Maiden Stakes on her first appearance in public. She then chased home Henry Cecil's useful colt, Protection, at Beverley and the winner franked the form by finishing second to the leader in the competitive Cecil Frial Handicap at Haydock recently.

The Tom Jones-trained Raabih was a consistent juvenile and showed she had trained on when named English Spring to two lengths on her reappearance at Wolverhampton earlier this month. Cascahel, from Robert Williams's yard, was successful on hard ground at Salisbury, but I say Metropolitan Star to take full advantage of the weight concession from her two main rivals.

If Metropolitan Star does oblige her stable companion, BEL OSCAR, will be a warm order for the Postlethwaite Maiden Stakes. Without the benefit of a previous race, Bel Oscar finished second to take sixth place in Protection's race and clearly has plenty of scope for improvement.

There are good reports about Emir Sultan.

The Frenchman also saddles Evening Blush for the Whitehawk Stakes, but this newcomer, a daughter of Blushing Groom, has a stiff task to beat Robert Armstrong's impressive Goodwood winner, Venetian Sky. Willie Carson, the jockey at Brighton, takes over from Robert Williams's yard, who romped in by four lengths at last week's Sussex Stakes. She should score again despite an 11lb penalty.

Ron Smyth, the Epsom trainer, and Simon Williams, who was successful in the five-furlong Balmuccia Handicap last year with the 16-1 chance, Shamblott, can take the same event today, this time with PARTY GAME, who was finishing a creditable second to Major's Review in the Brighton Spring Handicap.

Some moderate performers turn out for the Wm With The Tote Maiden Stakes, and CHAKKO, a close-up behind last year's winner, will lead the handicap at Chester. He should get his head in front at last.

BRIGHTON

Going: soft to moist

Draw advantages: 51-64, low numbers best

2.0 BALCOMBE HANDICAP (3-y-c £1,882: 5f) (10 runners)

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By Our Newmarket Correspondent

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GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

May 30, 1985

It is quite extraordinary and deeply depressing that after more than five years in office and with unemployment at record levels the Government can produce a White Paper called *Employment - The Challenge for the Nation*. The title sums it up. It is our problem, not theirs. All the emphasis is on removing responsibility from government.

The document declares that "the task as a whole must be for the nation as a whole". That "whole" includes school-leavers who may pass through training and then find 15 to 20 per cent unemployment in their area. How can they play their part? How can the man of 50 whose factory shuts? Or the woman whose public sector post is axed? The White Paper is a cruel deception.

Outside of the Government, the CBI, TUC, Tory "wets", SDP/Liberal Alliance, and Labour Party have all produced overlapping proposals. Spend far more on infrastructure, give far more government help to high-tech and research and development. The new Employment Institute brings together much of this thinking.

But there is a fundamental question to pose - to Whitehall,

Westminster and to the whole nation, though, especially one for government. Do we accept a long-term commitment to a society built on work? It might seem an unnecessary question for Mrs Thatcher, who claims to have created a nation that is leaner and fitter to compete in world markets and who undoubtedly believes in, and personally practises, the work ethic. But the next couple of years are unlikely to see a change of government. We may yet have to face a further dose of monetarism after the next election.

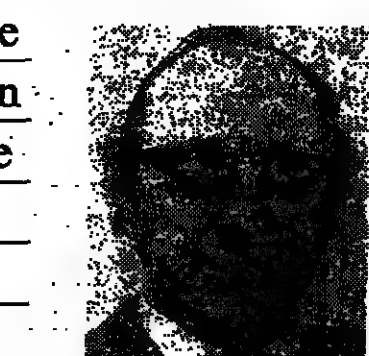
Does that mean present levels of unemployment, and possibly still higher levels, are to be a permanent enshrined aspect of the economic and social scene, partly from a stubborn, even callous, political refusal to change but also from the consequences of the new technology which cannot be ignored as part of the equation?

Political and industrial judgments will be made daily in the immediate period ahead which will influence further economic growth and development for decades. Decisions will be taken inside and outside Whitehall, and the employment effects, direct and indirect, will seldom be considered in the same

Employers and trade unions must be open to new policies if the dole queue is to be dealt with, says ex-MP John Grant

way as, say, investment, sales or marketing.

New jobs will be created in the high-tech industries. Other jobs will go. The alternative is to lapse into further industrial mediocrity - and lose still more jobs. These advances are essential in a fiercely competitive international environment. They can often be desirable in themselves, if properly harnessed. There are already far too many unemployed people who will never work again. There must be foresight and planning if those numbers are not to be swelled by further displacement through technological change.



the strike-free element is only one component. There is, too, in those agreements, a deliberate emphasis on job security. The important thing is for the benefits of change to be maximized and fairly shared. But how far does that sharing go? Only among those in work? Or can it be extended to the workless and, if so, how?

It is useless simply to talk about shorter hours and higher pay. Most of industry cannot remain competitive in that situation. There will be employer hostility and government hostility whatever the government - and little real movement as a consequence.

There is tremendous need for expansion, not least in parts of the public sector. But the level of unemployment will significantly determine the level of demand and of resources. Public services, in particular, must be paid for largely from the wealth and taxes of a prosperous manufacturing sector. There cannot be any precise blueprint to resolve the dilemma. Market forces alone are unequal to the task. Government has to lead. There has to be a shared responsibility to see that the fruits of new technology are sensibly distributed and widely enjoyed.

We will all have to face up to the need for a radical restructuring of our working lives. It will mean a new kind of industrial revolution, requiring some painful concessions and compromises all round. We must relate our wealth-creating capacity more closely to the manpower used. For employers that must mean a more ready acceptance of innovative manpower policies, a willingness to pay for change and to pick up a larger share of the costs to the wider community of the consequential rationalization and development measures.

For the unions, there will have to be a greater readiness to move from the ritual annual wage demand to a cost-effective package that will aid both employment and productivity and will recognize the responsibility to those youngsters en-route to a shrinking job market.

It is difficult to preach any kind of incomes policy in the current economic climate. But we cannot simply leave a gaping hole in the middle of economic policy and then pretend hypocritically that we really do care about the unemployed and about getting them back to work.

The Government, far from facing up to the challenge of unemployment, runs away from its responsibilities. Government's role as a catalyst of change is crucial. It can do most of all to shape and encourage a fresh approach.

We need far more now than a mere reaffirmation of the old and increasingly meaningless commitment to full employment. If we are not to have a society based on work, if instead we are to lurch on with perhaps 15 to 20 per cent, perhaps even more, of our employable population living at state expense, undignified, demoralized and jobless, then we had better know it and know it now.

Our society surely does believe that apart from the elderly and those with young children, incapacitated relatives or severe disabilities, the rest of us should work for a living and be given every opportunity to do so. We cannot simply stumble on, unprepared and unable to deal with a situation that will not only become more difficult but also increasingly dangerous.

John Grant is head of communications for the Electrical, Electronic Telecommunication and Plumbing Union, and is a former Under-Secretary of State for Employment and an ex-SDP MP.

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Please reply in the strictest of confidence, enclosing a curriculum vitae, quoting reference ER785/T to: Box 0346L, Times Box No. Department, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ.

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The collections of the Department of Western Asiatic Antiquities are of prime importance for the study of Ancient Mesopotamia and adjacent areas and include the world's largest collections of cuneiform tablets. Material in the collection comes from Mesopotamia, Iran, South Russia, Anatolia, Syria, the Levant, Arabia and Phoenician colonies in the Mediterranean, and incorporates cultures from the Neolithic to the Sassanian period.

Your duties include the curatorial and administrative management of the department, including supervision of the academic work of the staff, especially intended publications; responsibility for the care and maintenance of the collections; advising and reporting to the Director and the Trustees. In addition you will be expected to contribute both to the Department's scholarly output, at the highest level, in an important area of the collections, and to the development of Museum policy.

You should normally be at least 35 and

under 55 years of age, but exceptionally well qualified candidates outside these age limits will be considered. You must be of high academic standing in some branch of the art, archaeology, history or languages of the ancient Near East and must have both a good general knowledge of the fields of antiquities mentioned above and a specialised knowledge of one of them. Proven administrative ability is essential, and practical museum experience would be a considerable advantage.

SALARY (under review): £21,310-£24,060. Starting salary according to qualifications and experience.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 20 June 1985) write to Civil Service Commission, Alconon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours).

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The British Health Care Group

FINANCIAL DIRECTOR £20,000 + CAR + BENEFITS
An international publishing company is now looking for a qualified accountant, aged 30-40, to assist with its expansion programme. The successful applicant will possess extensive commercial experience coupled with highly turned communication skills. EDP knowledge an asset. In addition to the smooth running of the accounting function, the position involves close liaison with a managing board in the development of financial policy.

BANKING TO £18,000 + BENEFITS
An outstanding opportunity exists within a major international bank for a young Chartered accountant. assistant to the Vice-President, you will be responsible for the bank's accounting policies, and position involves considerable liaison with different departments. Knowledge of legal/regulatory matters would be an advantage, coupled with a bright, 'sustained' personality. Most importantly you will be able to learn quickly and work on your own initiative.

BUSINESS PLANNER TO £15,800 + BENEFITS
Qualified accountant, preferably ACMA, is actively being sought by an ethical pharmaceutical company. As well as all aspects of financial planning and analysis, close liaison with the marketing department, and the implementation of financial modelling and business planning systems. Ideal candidate will be aged 25-30, have at least 3 years commercial experience, a knowledge of or a major modelling systems and be capable of making presentations at board level, supervising staff. Please contact Fiona Croll or Ann Cowell, or send your CV to the address below.

ACCOUNTANCY APPOINTMENTS
7 PRINCESS STREET W1
629 7262

A DIVISION OF
GRADUATE
APPOINTMENTS

Manager, Business Affairs

High Prospects And Rewards To Match For An Ambitious Young Lawyer

RCA Ltd, Records Division is one of the major successful entertainment companies in the UK.

We are now seeking a lawyer for our Business Affairs Department to liaise with Artists and their Management, taking deals from inception to their conclusion. This involves full responsibility for negotiations, and includes the drafting and administration of contracts. Reporting directly to the Director of Business Affairs you will be a lawyer with post qualification experience, which will have been gained in the entertainment industry.

Not a job for a theoretician, this is an ideal opportunity for a practical, hard-working professional, with strong organisational and administrative skills. You will also possess the personality and style to make your mark in this dynamic industry.

An attractive salary is offered, together with a range of company benefits. Please send full career details to Malcolm Nicholson, Personnel Manager, RCA Ltd, Records Division, 1 Bedford Avenue, London WC1B 3DT.

RCA

Technology • Entertainment • Communications

Banking to £18,000 + benefits

A young ACA is required by a leading international bank to play an important role within its financial control department.

The successful applicant must have some knowledge of bank audits, and be familiar with the workings of a large financial institution. Confident communication skills are vital for this demanding position, coupled with a 'shift-sleeves' approach.

This is an ideal first move out of the profession.

E.D.P. Auditor £18,000 + benefits

A well-known high-tech company is seeking a young qualified ACA to join its auditing department.

A first-class academic track record and approximately two years experience in computer auditing are essential.

The ideal candidate will demonstrate a flexible and innovative approach, and early prospects for a move into a senior management position are offered.

Financial Accountants c£15,000

As a result of recent acquisitions, a major chemical company wishes to recruit two graduate ACAs.

This is an investigations role, designed to assist in the commercial decision making of the company, and reports directly to the Chief Accountant.

Applicants should combine a keen understanding of business with a high degree of initiative and commitment. Working knowledge of at least one European language would be an asset.

Outstanding career opportunities are offered to the successful candidate. Please contact Fiona Croll, or send your curriculum vitae to the address below.

7 Princes Street
London W1R 7RB
Tel: 01-629 7262

accountancy appointments
A Division of Graduate Appointments Ltd

GREAT SUCCESS STORY

F.T. AUGUST, 1984

This is simply one of the accolades Sun Life Unit Services, then an associate company of Sun Life received from the UK press in August when it was announced that they were to be bought by the Sun Life Group.

And the story continues.

For rather than resting on our laurels we're actively searching now for high calibre individuals to market an exclusive investment concept in the financial services field:

Possible earning in excess of £30,000 per annum (Commission).

Ring Ian Kirkwood on
242 6251

Scottish Opera

invites applications for the post of
Company Manager

The main areas of responsibility for this Glasgow-based appointment are:

- short and medium term scheduling of all company activities
- implementation of rehearsal and performance schedules including budgetary control
- chorus management and administration
- management of the Company on tour
- engagement of actors and dancers.

This is an important post requiring someone with considerable and appropriate experience. Applications must be made in writing, no later than 7 June 1985 to:

Managing Director, Scottish Opera,
39 Rimbark Crescent, Glasgow G2 4PT.

PARTNERSHIP SECRETARY

A long established firm of Chartered Surveyors with a mixed practice situated in the Home Counties wishes to appoint a Partnership Secretary.

The successful candidate will be responsible for the administration of the practice, the accounts, full financial management and control, cost accounts and insurance. The Secretary will report directly to the Partners and will enjoy Partnership status.

Candidates should have a recognised professional qualification and a proven record of successful management and leadership at this level.

The salary is negotiable. A car will be provided.

Please write to:-
Box 2308 L The Times

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS 01-278 9161/5

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Tel: 051-236 1724

Commercial Manager

Up to £19,000
Surrey

Our client, a member of a leading consulting group, is expanding its consulting services in the engineering, construction and computer-based systems. To meet this new phase of expansion, they now require an experienced Commercial Manager (male or female) to join them at this exciting stage of their development.

You will be responsible to the Managing Director for all commercial matters including cost and feasibility reviews, pricing, terms and control of contracts and customer relations. Our client is operating across a broad spectrum of markets for prestigious clients in the process manufacturing and defence industries where state-of-the-art technology is being applied. To join our client's existing highly motivated

team you must have several years of commercial management experience in an industrial, commercial or consultancy environment. Our client offers a highly qualified applicant both an attractive benefits package, including relocation assistance where necessary and opportunity for personal and career development.

Please apply in the first instance quoting ref. MOX/2569 P1 to Mrs M. Gillies, Moxon Dolphin & Kerby Ltd, 178-202 Great Portland Street, London W1N 5TB.

Please state in a covering letter any compensation to which you do not wish to apply.

Chief Development Engineer

Creating tomorrow's timber-based products

Norwich

Senior Credit Controller

A new, prestige, CITY based appointment

Salary Negotiable

Boulton & Paul has been associated for many years with high quality joinery products produced in extensive, modern and highly automated factories. These products are distributed through a nationwide sales network to the building and construction industries.

We are broadening our activities and are therefore looking to appoint someone at senior level, to manage existing and highly effective development team.

We will be looking for an able, degree-qualified Mechanical Engineer, aged between 30 and 40, with a good deal of experience probably in production but, most importantly in development engineering in all its forms. This role will also require the knowledge of value analysis and possibly CAD. Of equal importance, are a fair for and wide understanding of the use of materials other than wood.

This outstanding and challenging opportunity, will make the most of your personal drive, tenacity and capacity for original thought.

To demonstrate the importance of the appointment an attractive salary and benefits package will be negotiated together with relocation assistance where appropriate.

If you sincerely think you have the necessary skills and characteristics to qualify you for this post, please write with comprehensive cv to: Christine Pick, Personnel Officer, Boulton & Paul plc, Riverside Works, Norwich NR1 1EB.

BOULTON & PAUL

delicate discussions with both the firm's partners and its clients.

Our client does not have a fixed view on salary, preferring instead to find the right person first and then to negotiate a package - it will be generous.

For a detailed written description of this unique opportunity, please telephone or write to: Peter Nielsen, Moxon Dolphin & Kerby Ltd, 178-202 Great Portland Street, London W1N 5TB. Tel: 01-388 5528. Quoting Reference No. 2563.

Assistant Credit Manager

Senior Financial Analysts

Major minicomputer company

Up to £15,000 pa
West London

Data General is acknowledged as one of the world's leading names in minicomputers. The company has experienced consistent and dramatic growth throughout the past decade to achieve a turnover last year in excess of \$1 billion. Data General in the UK has been one of the company's finest success stories and the continued growth of our customer base has created a need to strengthen our Financial Management Team.

Assistant Credit Manager

Credit control is obviously a very important part of our operation. We need a credit professional who will take a highly disciplined approach and can balance the need for rapid collection with a sensitivity to on-going customer relationships.

We are looking for a mature individual who has wide experience of credit control systems, preferably at a supervisory level - possibly gained in a Head Office environment with high value individual invoices.

Financial Analysts (Senior)

The two most visible functions within Data General (Sales/Marketing and Customer Service) each need a Financial Analyst to

provide the respective management teams with information and financial support. This will involve contributing to the development of budgets and forecasts and analysing financial data to compare actual performance against budget.

We are looking for qualified accountants, who have the ambition to take on early responsibility and make a valuable contribution to a dynamic and fast expanding business.

Salaries will be negotiable up to £15,000 pa, plus the comprehensive range of benefits you would expect from a profitable successful international company. Future career prospects are generally outstanding both in the UK and internationally.

Please telephone or write to: Gina Richards, Data General Limited, Hounslow House, 724-734 London Road, Hounslow, Middlesex TW3 1PD. Tel: 01-572 7455.

Data General
a Generation ahead

MECHANICAL DESIGN ENGINEER

Salary £20,000 tax free

Applications are invited for the post of Mechanical Design Engineer in a major aluminium smelter, power station and desalination complex situated in Dubai.

As a member of a multi-disciplined engineering group, the successful applicant can expect to have wide mechanical engineering responsibilities, including piping systems, materials handling, HVAC, hydraulics and pneumatics, structural steel fabrications, cost estimation, plant services and layouts, project co-ordination including contractors supervision.

Successful applicants should have the flexibility to switch between design and project engineering and preferably be able to handle small civil/structural design and building works.

Candidates should ideally be between 30-40 years of age with at least H.N.D. Mechanical and over 5 years' experience gained after completion of formal training in a heavy industrial environment. Experience in an Aluminium Smelter would be an advantage.

Dubai offers a stimulating and congenial environment for both work and leisure.

The post carries a tax free salary and a comprehensive remuneration package including free family accommodation and utilities, car allowance, health care, provident fund, assistance with children's education and paid leave passages each year.

Please write for application form to:

Ms Ena Williamson
Dubai Services Limited
100 Brompton Road, London SW3 1ER

MAJOR OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE NUMERICAL ALGORITHMS GROUP (NAG)

NAG produces scientific computing software which is used throughout the world. As part of its research and development, NAG has established the following fixed-term posts, each of which presents a unique opportunity to scientific computing.

NUMERICAL SOFTWARE IN ADA

Two research posts for a project on Numerical Libraries in Ada. The emphasis of the research will be on advanced language features of Ada and advanced language features of Ada and

LIBRARY CO-ORDINATOR IN ALGOL 68 AND ADA

This post is concerned with writing, testing, documenting and integrating routines into the NAG Algol 68 Library and providing support for that library, together with work on the efficient implementation of library packages in other languages and, in a related language environment of Algol 68, Ada and Pascal. Applicants should have a good Honours degree in a relevant topic and a Ph.D. would be an advantage. Two or three years experience of high-level language programming, preferably in Algol 68 and in numerical application areas on a variety of machines, including involvement in the design, implementation and documentation of scientific software, is required. Salary scale 1A or 1B.

ALGORITHM FOR SIGNAL PROCESSING

Two research posts for a project on Numerical Algorithms for Real-time Signal Processing. The emphasis of the research will be on algorithms of numerical linear algebra. One person is required to lead the investigation and should have a Ph.D. or a proven research record in a relevant topic and be capable of initiating and communicating ideas. Applicants for the second post should possess a good Honours degree and preferably an M.Sc. in a relevant topic, have a good practical knowledge of numerical linear algebra together with some knowledge of applications to signal processing. The successful candidates will work together as a team. Salary scale 1A and salary scale 1B.

KNOWLEDGE BASE IN STATISTICS

A research post to work on a project concerned with the development of an intelligent Knowledge Based System using the GLIM statistical package as a foundation. The project is a joint venture between the group led by Prof. Hester at Imperial College and NAG. Applicants should possess a good Honours degree, have a keen interest in expert systems and have a good working knowledge of GLIM. A knowledge of PROLOG would be an advantage. The successful candidate will be directly involved in the research and will help to co-ordinate the various activities, including that of contact with potential users. Salary scale 1A.

The following Research staff salary scales apply to the above posts: 1A £27,500-£12,150; 1B £11,200-£14,325. NAG conditions for fixed term appointments apply. The statistics post is for three years and is based at Imperial College, London; the other posts are for two years based at NAG Central Office, Oxford.

For further details please contact The Administrator, The Numerical Algorithms Group Ltd, NAG Central Office, 260 Banbury Road, OXFORD OX2 7DE. Tel: (0800) 511245. Closing date for applications: 19th June 1985.

Assistant to Communications Manager

Sought for City Dealing Company to undertake maintenance of Billing and other Records relating to Telecommunications and Telex Data Systems.

Technical experience is not important but candidates should have a demonstrable record keeping ability and an enthusiasm for some experience in the communications field. Initiative, self motivation and self discipline will also be required in what can be at times a hectic environment. Salary negotiable.

Apply with CV to:

Martin Whitlock
Smith Bros PLC
241 Salisbury House
London Wall, EC2

AT ALLIED HAMBRO, FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY IS NOT A TERM WE USE LIGHTLY

You may well have seen vacancies for financial management consultants and have perhaps wondered what exactly this entails.

We are a unique practice to offer our clients a complete integrated range of financial services including Portfolio Management and Banking Services as well as sophisticated investment and pension plans. Consequently, vacancies exist for people with ability, determination and integrity to join our team within this wider sphere of financial management consultancy.

In addition to a training programme considered to be the best in the industry you would receive financial assistance and full administrative support. Average earnings were £17,000 during 1984.

Telephone any of our Management Team for an appointment: Andy Barker, Laura Stewart, Michael Shaw on 01-491 1823.

ALLIED HAMBRO
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Product Manager

Nr Uxbridge
competitive salary+car

Glaxovet Limited is the leading British supplier of ethical veterinary medicines. Its products are the result of original research developed in the United Kingdom.

We now have an opportunity for an experienced product manager to take over the marketing planning of a range of brand-leading products. This demanding role would suit someone who can demonstrate both initiative and market innovation.

The successful candidate, aged 25-32, should have a science, agricultural, business or related degree, together with proven experience in the animal health, pharmaceutical or crop protection industry. An in-depth knowledge of market research would be an asset.

The company offers a highly competitive and progressive salary, and benefits include a company car, non-contributory pension scheme, guaranteed bonus and assistance with relocation if necessary.

For an application form please telephone:

Mrs M A Model, Company Personnel Officer, Glaxovet Limited, Brackspere Road, South Harrold, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8 3LS. Telephone: 01895 30268.

Glaxovet

CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR & COMPANY SECRETARY LONDON PRODUCTION CENTRE GROUP

YOU ARE a person who takes pride in creating solutions to novel problems. You are aiming for a senior management position and wish to put your speed with administration and knowledge of company law and business practice to practical use within a small management team with a big job. While being a Chartered Secretary or having a recognised administrative or legal qualification, you will also have had at least five years first hand senior business experience, enjoy communicating with people from shopfloor to boardroom, are used to interpreting legal advice (especially regarding contracts, company structure and trusts), and believe that greater employee participation at all levels is a positive part of business development. You would be Company Secretary for the London Production Centre and for its subsidiary Companies. You have a sense of humor and a sense of purpose.

WE ARE a large industrial and office letting complex with three on-site subsidiary companies in electronics and engineering, totalling over 100 people. Established in 1984 we occupy over 100,000 square feet, and once rebuilding is completed we aim for over 50 firms broadly related to electronics, with over 400 people. We are completely funded with over £4.5 million by The Greater London Enterprise Board Limited and share that Company's interest in a progressive approach to people and employment. We positively welcome applications from women, members of ethnic minorities, and people with disabilities. We are in South-West London and offer a salary up to £18,000 plus car - plus responsibility.

APPLY BY 14th JUNE 1985. DETAILING EDUCATION, CAREER PROGRESS AND SALARY TO:-

THE MANAGING DIRECTOR,
NORMAN GROVES
THE LONDON PRODUCTION CENTRE LIMITED,
BROOMHILL ROAD,
WANDSWORTH, LONDON SW18 4JQ

MEMBERSHIP DEPARTMENT MANAGEMENT

Central London £12,000-£16,000

This vacancy is a key role within our client's Information Services department providing a first-class career opportunity to join a major professional service organisation with a large international computerised membership list.

The person selected will ideally have experience of a similar service role. He/she will require good communication skills and strong mathematical ability to provide an effective service.

The successful applicant will be supported by a small team and will be able to look forward to a rewarding and challenging future.

The conditions of service are above average and include a generous holiday allowance, excellent pension and BUPA.

For a confidential discussion, contact our London office on 01-353 0881 or send your C.V. quoting reference ST/2403/S1 to T/3005/S1

Myriad Appointments (London) Ltd,
30 Fleet Street,
London, EC4Y 1AA.

London **myriad** Reading

Chemical Sales

DuBois Chemicals is a successful manufacturing and selling subsidiary of the world wide Chemed Corporation.

Our 1985 development plans have created the need for additional sales representatives.

Industrial representatives are needed to sell professional cleaning and sanitising compounds together with polymer lubricants and water treatment chemicals for the following areas:-

North West/Midlands/London & Home Counties

We also have vacancies to sell our comprehensive range of cleaning, sanitising and laundry chemicals in:-

Greater Manchester/North East/London & Home Counties

Sales experience is not essential - the emphasis is on personality and ambition. However, for the industrial sales positions you should be educated to at least 'A' level or O.N.C. in Sciences.

If you are aged 23-40 with the determination to succeed in a competitive market this is your chance to earn a substantial remuneration package directly geared to your own personal effort, achievement and success together with good career prospects.

DuBois Chemicals

Write or telephone: Mr D. T. Cookson,
DuBois Chemicals Limited,
DuBois House, Sunningdale Road,
Windsor, Middlesex HA0 4PT
Telephone: 01-903 8211.

PUBLISHING COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR

Egmont Limited is the UK member of a major European publishing group and has six UK companies specialising in the areas of juvenile, trade and magazine publishing as well as the toy and video cassette markets.

The objective of Egmont is to increase profits substantially in the immediate future through development of the existing businesses and the acquisition of additional companies in both the UK and USA.

To achieve the objective a Commercial Director is to be appointed to advise on expansion and diversification of existing product areas and on acquisitions. Key tasks will be formulating business strategy, identifying and evaluating target market sectors and companies and assisting with negotiations and subsequent integration into Egmont.

Preferred candidates aged early thirties would be chartered accountants with commercial flair and have operated in a marketing environment in an international branded consumer goods company. Experience in strategic planning utilising market research and financial trends is essential. Experience in acquisitions would be helpful.

The successful candidate will receive a substantial remuneration package including quality car and assistance with relocation costs. Please write, in confidence, with full career details to:

Robin Wood, Managing Director, Egmont Limited,
Egmont House, P.O. Box 111, Great Duke Street, Manchester, M60 3BL.

EGMONT LIMITED - WORLD INTERNATIONAL PUBLISHING LIMITED
LONDON EDITIONS LIMITED - KEMUS PLAY KITS LIMITED
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FINANCIAL CONSULTANCY

IS A GROWTH AREA OF THE MOMENT AND OF THE FUTURE - DON'T MISS OUT!

FPS (Management) Ltd. is a leading firm of financial consultants and because of phenomenal expansion in 1984 is looking for two outstanding individuals to complement its London-based team of professionals.

The right individuals (aged 23+ and based in London) will be intelligent and energetic, highly motivated, hard-working and able to absorb new ideas quickly.

Full training will be provided.

Remuneration expected to be in excess of £15,000 first year. This is a superb opportunity to develop your own business and career path in a growing company and in an exciting industry.

For further details speak to
RICHARD OLIVER on 01-240 9970 or MARTIN HOLDEPNESS on
01-240 9959 between 9.30am and 4.30pm.



ADMINISTRATOR COMPUTER EQUIPMENT MOVEMENT

Candidate will work with a small, efficient team responsible for the movement and installation of IBM computer equipment multi-nationally.

Applicants will be in their 20's, well disciplined, committed and also to work under pressure when necessary. They'll have commercial experience and the capability of commanding around £8,000 p.a.

Comprehensive c.v. to

Prestier Computers (P.H.T.P.)
Queen Anne's Court, Windsor
Berkshire SL 4 1DS

Top Management Responsibility

London retail business with multiple outlets seeks top calibre Manager to assume responsibility for all management aspects. The successful applicant will have a keen commercial sense, an ability to recruit and motivate staff and report to the Group Head Office in Brussels. An excellent package will be tailored to the right man or woman.

Write with CV and full details of previous experience to Ref WHB, 1022 T The Times.

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS 01-278 9161/5

We have been represented in the British transport market for many years by a wide spectrum of activities. For our London-based subsidiary we are now looking for a

Managing Director

with a good knowledge of the British market to supervise both our activities within Britain and traffic between Britain and the Continent. The successful applicant will be expected to continue the expansion of our rail car and tank-container business.

Specialist knowledge would be an advantage, but we are also prepared to train an applicant with several years experience in either the forwarding business or in transport and haulage. The post requires a familiarity with the British market acquired in previous employment, and the applicant should have a command of both English and German adequate for conducting business in both languages. In addition to the acquisition of new customers, this position in a large German group operating internationally embraces personnel management and responsibility for the company budget.

The job represents a challenge to the right applicant: it offers a variety of opportunities and a salary to match.

We have engaged a management consultancy service so that applicants can enjoy a confidential exchange of information. They can be reached by phone (01049 211/49 90 73) on Saturday and Sunday between 18.00 and 20.00, in the week from 8.00 (Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays until 20.00).

Your written application should be sent to the following address:

NICOLAI & PARTNER

Managementberatung GmbH (BDU)

Teubnerstraße 2 4000 Düsseldorf 30, Tel. 0211/49 90 73

NO FAT SALARY NO PROMISES NO EASY WAY NO HOLIDAY

We are a group of rapidly expanding companies in the fields of communication, information and marketing.

We are preparing for the future and are looking for the right individuals to participate in a long term management programme.

We are looking to train people for future entrepreneurial and managerial roles, and require people who have no reservations about working within a disciplined and personally demanding organisational context.

The rewards could be high, but you have to be willing to start at the bottom and undergo a rigorous training programme.

If you are a graduate, in your twenties, and want to find out more, ring for a first interview.

Call me, Peter Robeson on: 01-242 4000.

ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS

NEW DIMENSIONS IN HIGH TECHNOLOGY

British Aerospace at Bracknell continues to win technically challenging contracts and to invest in new equipment, facilities and high-calibre personnel. We are one of the world's leading innovators in sophisticated systems for defence applications. Healthy growth creates high demand for Degree/HND/HNC qualified professionals at all levels from Engineer to Team Leader in all the following areas:

HARDWARE

- Multi- and distributed processing
- Digital interface and data highway design
- Signal/image processing
- Microprocessor systems design and implementation
- Analogue/digital circuit design
- Semi-custom chip design
- A to D sensor interface conversions
- Graphic card design
- Power supply design

SOFTWARE

- Assembler-level 16 bit micros
- Hi level Pascal, Coral 66
- Real-time mini and micro software design
- Software/Hardware interfacing
- Designing and implementing software utilising embedded processors

To find out more about the projects, stimulating working environment, rewards, benefits and prospects we offer, write with career details to Kevin Harris, Assistant Personnel Manager, British Aerospace Dynamics Group, Bracknell Division, FREEPOST, Downshire Way, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 1BR. Telephone Bracknell (0344) 483222.

SYSTEMS

- Control Systems theory and design
- Systems analysis and simulation
- Performance specification and evaluation
- Target acquisition techniques
- Image/Signal processing
- Algorithm design
- Trials analysis
- Electro-optical system design
- Reliability
- Evaluation and prediction

QUALITY

- Test equipment for electronic and electro-mechanical assemblies
- Microprocessor based ATE systems
- Design and production liaison
- Co-ordinating test method development



**BRITISH
AEROSPACE
DYNAMICS
GROUP**

Serving the largest local business in Britain Managing Consultant

Peat Marwick management consultants work in partnership with local authorities throughout the country.

Our work includes organisation reviews, financial planning, human resource development, performance evaluation and a comprehensive range of information technology and computer services.

Due to continuing expansion our Public Sector Group is looking for a first class individual to take responsibility as a managing consultant for a major part of our growing local authority practice.

The role requires a man or woman in their mid 30's with a record of major achievement working with or within

local authorities. You must demonstrate the ability and determination to get results working through other people and the creativity to identify market needs and develop innovative services. You would be based in London.

If you feel you can meet this challenging requirement, please write (quoting reference PSQ 4/T and enclosing a curriculum vitae) to John Fielden, Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co., Management Consultants, 1 Puddle Dock, Blackfriars, London, EC4A 3PD.



Services to Local Government.

International Oil Trading Company

Based in Switzerland is presently seeking a representative for its operations in the U.K. The successful applicant will have at least 15 years experience in the refinery and oil industry and will be a qualified chemical engineer, and qualified to post-graduate level in economics and administration and with experience in trading, commercial and economic activities.

The ability to speak fluent English, German, Arabic and Hebrew will be an advantage.

Send full details of career, current salary and qualifications To Box 1493 T, The Times.

Architectural Heritage of Cheltenham

We require an energetic Sales Lady/Gentleman, preferably with experience in Antiques or similar fields, to specialise in the sale of FINE REPRODUCTION AND PERIOD ARCHITECTURAL FIXTURES AND FITTINGS.

The successful applicant will be responsible for sales promotion, advertising, presentation work and some administration. Some knowledge of period Architecture, History of Art, and/or a foreign language, preferably European, would be to the applicant's advantage, but not absolutely essential.

Hours and salary by negotiation. Please apply in writing, giving full particulars to: ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE, c/o Mr. A. Paddy, 10 Lypiatt Terrace, CHELTENHAM, Gloucestershire.

SCOTTISH CROP RESEARCH INSTITUTE DIRECTOR

The Governing Body of the Scottish Crop Research Institute invites applications for the post of Director which will become vacant on the retirement of Professor C. E. TAYLOR, CBE, in March 1986.

SCRI, which is funded by an annual grant from the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland, is a major crop research institute within the Agricultural and Food Research Service. Its research programme requires a wide range of scientific disciplines associated with the production and breeding of arable and horticultural crops.

Candidates should have an established record of scientific leadership and the capability to manage an organisation with over 300 staff. Salary: £26,909 per annum, non-contributory super-annuation scheme. The Institute is an equal opportunities employer.

Further particulars can be obtained from: Mr. H. D. Anderson, The Secretary to the Governing Body. Applications accompanied by a full curriculum vitae & the names and addresses of three referees should be lodged with the secretary to the Governing Body Scottish Crop Research Institute, Invergowrie, Dundee, DD2 5DA. Closing date 12th July.

COMMUNICATIONS SOFTWARE ENGINEERS

£10,000-£18,500 + Relocation

Have you B.Sc. with min. 2 yrs. Micros or Minis exp. interested in working on Voice Communications, Control Systems & Data Communications products? If so and you have experience in using one or more of these languages please send resume to: C. PAXON, PLM 86, PASCAL, PL2, RUS 86, ASBESLEY.

CBS APPOINTMENTS

1 Weston Gardens, Bournemouth

0102-382125 (9h hrs) day or Sunday & Monday 28th & 27th on 04264-70379 or 0202-884881

ADMIN MANAGER/ACCOUNTS

CROYDON BASED

Respond to send every few months to N. London, Bedford, Portsmouth and Scotland. All experience and overseas accommodation paid. Accounts up to £100,000. Job is in the 'Pam Haybittle' sector, an exciting opportunity and offers salary range £10,000 to £15,000 for right person. Free parking and excellent conditions, 4 weeks holiday. Sole agency.

14 High Street, West Wickham, Kent **pam haybittle** Tel. (01) 776 9491

GROUP FINANCIAL DIRECTOR

The Stag Furniture Group, the leading U.K. manufacturer of quality Cabinet Furniture, has a turnover in excess of £30m with 1,200 employees and headquarters in Nottingham.

The appointment calls for a mature Chartered Accountant with relevant industrial experience, including a period in a manufacturing company.

The successful applicant will be expected to make a major contribution as a member of the Holding Group Board to the efficiency and profitable growth of the Company. The remuneration package will reflect the importance of the position.

Applications, which will be treated in absolute confidence, should be addressed to The Chairman, Stag Furniture Holdings PLC, Haydn Road, Nottingham NG5 1DU.

CHAIRMAN'S AIDE DE CAMP

required for busy office in the Leisure Industry.

Research work involving social travel and general duties. Preferably graduate. Good hours and good prospects.

Please reply with photo and C.V. to:

The Managing Director (Ref: 781/L), B.J.G. Advertising Services, Atlantic House, 83 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7TY.

All replies will be forwarded unopened to our client, unless otherwise requested by applicant.

MAYFAIR TRAVEL ORGANISATION

WE HAVE 2 IMMEDIATE OPENINGS

1 Receptionist/Admissionist

and

2 General Services Representative

Duties include: WP. Knowledge of European language an asset. Excellent benefits, salary neg. Our US Rep will be interviewing in London Thursday 30/5-Friday 31/5.

Please call 483 4835, 9-5 to arrange appointment. (No agencies)

INSTRUMENT & MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

NEW ZEALAND SYNTHETIC FUELS

Commissioning has started of the world's first plant to convert Natural Gas into methanol and then to Petro. This high volume plant includes the largest ever methanol manufacturing installation. The company now wish to make two further appointments to the multi-discipline team working in New Zealand and write applications from Professional Instrument and Mechanical Engineers with a minimum of ten years experience in the design and detailed engineering of Hydrocarbon and similar Process Plant. Specialist experience required is as follows:

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Previous extensive Design and Supervisory experience covering all aspects of Instrument Control Systems, including On Line Analysers, Burner Management Systems and Controls for large high speed machinery utilising the very latest Instrument Control Technology.

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Previous experience of specifying Thermal Equipment and Pressure Vessels with thorough practical knowledge of Heat Exchangers, Steam Raising and Waste Heat Recovery Systems. Candidates must be willing to move permanently to New Zealand. Relocation and housing assistance are available. An excellent salary, company car and benefits package is offered.

Please send fully detailed C.V. to: Patrick Robinson at London Bridge Engineering Limited, Consulting Engineers, 76 Abbeots Lane, LONDON SE1 2UT or tel. 01-407 6191.

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Careers in Management Consultancy for business orientated accountants

Stoy Hayward Associates, The Management Advisory Services division of Stoy Hayward, Chartered Accountants, is embarking on a programme of development that will increase its requirement for young accountants with industrial/commercial experience who wish to pursue a career in consultancy. In line with Stoy Hayward's philosophy of assisting clients to develop their business, the services of the consultancy are based on providing financial and management information systems advice but include organisational and operational studies and a wide range of computer services.

Candidates, ideally in the age range 28-32, should be able to demonstrate that they understand the information requirements of growing businesses and be able to point to real professional achievements in their career since qualifying as an accountant. There are openings for candidates who already have consultancy experience. A competitive remuneration package is being offered and the potential for advancement is open to consultants who prove their capabilities.

Please write, in confidence, enclosing full personal and career details to: David Fowler, Personnel Director, Stoy Hayward Associates, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA.

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GRADUATES: Electrical and Mechanical Engineers The complete professional career

A career with the Royal Corps of Naval Constructors offers not just technological challenge and wide-ranging experience but promotion to the specialist career grade of Principal in the shortest possible time.

Selection however is on the basis that those recruited must have potential to advance further to superintending and directing grades. Members of the Corps have professional responsibility, in terms of both engineering and financial commitment, rarely equaled elsewhere.

Members of the RNCV are responsible for the design, construction and upkeep of Royal Navy ships including everything they comprise.

You must have, or expect to obtain in 1985, a 1st or 2nd class Division I Honours degree in Mechanical, Electrical/Electronic Engineering or the appropriate sciences.

Salary (under review): £6915 to £7635 according to qualifications and experience. There are good promotion prospects to £21,830 and above. Salary in London up to £1300 higher.

For further information and an application form (to be returned by 21 June 1985) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: T/6567. The Civil Service is an equal opportunity employer



The Royal Corps of Naval Constructors

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS ☎ 01-278 9161/5

BBC

PRODUCER (NEWS)

Radio Bristol £9,348 - £12,660**
We need someone with the ability to combine journalistic skill and flair with the art of production. As well as being able to interview, report and write, you must be able to select and edit material from all sources to produce and present up-to-the-minute bulletins. Must be prepared to work irregular hours and weekends as necessary. Proven journalistic experience; good microphone voice; ability to operate technical equipment and work under pressure and current driving licence are all essential. Experience of production and broadcasting techniques and knowledge of the Station's area is desirable. Must be prepared to live close to the Station. (Ref. 2583/T)

ARABIC MONITORS MONITORING SERVICE

Caversham £9,552 - £11,862*
To listen to news and other radio broadcasts and translate selectively into accurate, idiomatic English; also to view similar television broadcasts and report on the pictorial elements they contain in addition to translating the audio content. Applicants must have degree or equivalent standard (e.g. mother tongue, or long period of residence) in Arabic; sound standard of written English; wide interests; good knowledge of international affairs; perfect hearing; normal colour vision and ability to type. Command of a Maghreb colloquial dialect, preferably Moroccan, or of another major language; experience as a translator or journalist or specialist knowledge of a relevant field (politics, economics, law, etc.) is desirable. Weekend work involved. (Ref. 2591/T)

*Plus allowance of £537 p.a. **Plus allowance of £916 p.a. Salaries currently under review. Relocation expenses considered for permanent posts. Contact us immediately for application form (quote appropriate ref. and enclose s.a.e.): BBC Appointments, London W1A 1AA. Tel. 01-927 5799.

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PRODUCER (NEWS)

Radio Oxford £9,348 - £12,660**
To join the newsroom team working primarily on the preparation and production of the station's news output and current affairs programmes, including newsreading, interviewing and reporting. In addition, may produce feature programmes and take part in announcing duties. Journalistic experience at sub-editor or reporter level; good microphone voice and current driving licence, essential. (Ref. 2581/T)

HUNGARIAN MONITOR MONITORING SERVICE

Caversham £9,552 - £11,862*
We have a temporary vacancy for a Hungarian Monitor: the contract will last for one year and, while no undertaking can be given may lead thereafter to a permanent post. The chief duties are to listen to news and other radio broadcasts and translate selectively into accurate English; also to view similar television broadcasts and report on the pictorial elements they contain in addition to translating the audio content. A degree or equivalent standard (e.g. mother tongue or long period of residence) in Hungarian; sound standard of written English; wide interests; good knowledge of international affairs; perfect hearing; normal colour vision and ability to type are essential. Experience in journalism or as a translator, or specialist knowledge of a relevant field (politics, economics, law, etc.) is desirable. Command of a second major language would be an advantage. Weekend work involved. (Ref. 2590/T)

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Interested? Then contact Ruth Grace, District Computer Services Officer, 25 Grafton Way, London WC1E 6DB, Tel. 01-388 3628 for further details.

Closing date 18th June, 1985.

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Technical Support
Applicants preferably computer graduates, should have support experience on the IBM PC and popular leading software products (11-2-3, Symphony, Lotus 1-2-3 and VisiCalc) as well as knowledge of accounting systems and networking technology would be an advantage.

Consultant
An experienced DP/micro applications development consultant is required to enhance our consultancy services. Knowledge of products the 11-2-3, Symphony, Lotus 1-2-3 and VisiCalc is essential, as is exposure to a wide range of applications particularly in the Finance industry.

Send C.V. to Mike Starland, Managing Director, Personal Computers Limited, 220-226 Whitechapel, London E2 8JH.

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As part of the continuing development of the organisation we are now seeking a high calibre Product Marketing Manager, who, through a team of Product Coordinators, will be capable of managing the Company's interests by focusing attention on nominated product groups to the optimum profitability and highlight the benefits of the products and product mix to the direct sales force.

This is a new post which offers unique and exciting opportunities for the right person to establish and develop a function from what is almost a gross roots beginning. The successful candidate will almost certainly be of graduate stature in the age range 30-45 years and will ideally have several years successful experience in sales and product management.

In return for the correct mix of enthusiasm, commitment, ideas and hard work required, we are offering an excellent starting salary, relocation costs where appropriate and fringe benefits such as pension scheme, Luncheon Vouchers, car, sick leave, etc. optional BUPA, service payments together with 21 days annual holiday.

To apply, in the first instance, please telephone for an application form or send in a full C.V. to: The Personnel department, Project Office Furniture plc, Hamlet Green, HAVERHILL, Suffolk CB9 8QJ. Tel: (0440) 705411

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The company has one of the most successful growth records in our industry; the group turnover will be around \$9 million at the end of our fifth year of trading, making us firmly established as one of the market leaders in the Contract Computer Services industry throughout the UK, Europe and North America.

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This is an excellent opportunity for a person with flair and ambition to join a highly progressive company in an extremely fast moving industry.

If you would like to know more, please send a full CV or telephone Tony Cotton, Managing Director, Computer Search and Selection Limited, Hamilton House, Marlowes, Hemel Hempstead, Herts, HP1 1BB. Tel: 0442 40761

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A progressive and dynamic international management consultancy company seeks male and female staff experienced in production control/materials management/management training techniques, to work in the UK/Europe.

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Experienced Book-keeper with administrative ability required by a wine wholesaling subsidiary of substantial Mayfair group. Computer experience is essential for this varied and interesting position. Excellent salary, annual bonus, L.V.s. Please apply in writing to Mr. K. R. Davies, FGIS, Tilney House, 5 Tilney Street, London W1Y 6JL.

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Details may be had from: The Chapter Clerk, The Chapter Office, The Cathedral, LINCOLN. Closing date 1 July 1985

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Normally you should have been a UK resident for the past five years.

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In addition to excellent conditions of employment, a highly competitive salary will be offered. If you would like to see where you could be in 1986, and take advantage of this exciting opportunity, write with full career details to:

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GENERAL APPOINTMENTS 01-278 9161/5



THORN EMI Central Research Laboratories

Thorn EMI Central Research Laboratories, Ltd. 1985
Telephone 01-278 9161/5 Telex 834128 Cable Emvairch London

Miss Shirley Margolis,
Classified Advertisement Manager,
Times Newspapers Ltd.,
P.O. Box 7,
200 Gray's Inn Road,
London WC1X 8SZ.

Dear Miss Margolis,

We have used the Times Thursday pages for our Spring Recruitment Programme with very encouraging results. We did not realise that so many of the key research people we are looking for are Times readers. Having our advertisement in the Times each Thursday has helped to raise the general level of applications from other sources as well; some candidates decided to apply because they could see that something was happening at THORN EMI, with adverts appearing in so many papers.

Thank you for your help.

Yours sincerely,

Humayun Khan
R.K. Khan
Personnel Manager

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Advertising inquiries ring 01-278 9161/5

IMPERIAL COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (University of London) LIBRARY ASSISTANT

Required for work in the Library of the Centre for Environmental Technology (3 days per week) and in the Reader Services Section of the Lyne Playfair Library (2 days per week). Duties include issue and return of books, reservations, inter-library loans, dealing with readers' enquiries and use of the College computer.

No computing experience required. Graduate preferred but library experience not essential.

Salary on scale £5,700 - £7,785 (includes 13%)

Applicants, naming two referees, to the College Librarian (DET) Lyne Playfair Library, Imperial College, South Kensington, London, SW7 2AZ, within two weeks of the appearance of this advertisement.

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For more information please phone **WORDATA (Rice Cons)** 378 6666

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LYN BARNES on 01-433 0482 (24 hrs) Fieldstaff Personnel.

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This could be your opportunity to travel world-wide.

Positions are now available for United Kingdom State Registered Nurses and Midwives in the following hospitals:

Palmerston North Hospital - 550 bed based hospital - Surgical/Medical/Intensive Care/Psychiatric.
Kilmerley Hospital, Levin - 600 bed for the intellectually handicapped.
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Applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. Be a Graduate from a United Kingdom school of nursing.
2. Be immediately registerable with the Nursing Council of New Zealand as a registered general and obstetric nurse, or a comprehensive or psychiatric or psychopaedic nurse.

All intending migrants must have practised as a nurse within the previous 12 months.

Assistance:

The Board is prepared to offer assistance with travelling expenses in return for a minimum of 18 months' service.

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Massey University is situated in Palmerston North. It has a department of nursing studies.

Innovative orientation and staff development programmes available at all hospitals.

Applications should be made to:
See Burrell, Chief Nurse, Palmerston North Hospital Board, Private Bag, Palmerston North, New Zealand and must be received by 6th June, 1985.

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MANAGERS

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Anne Manley, Windsor Life Assurance Co., 83 Kingsway, London WC2B 6SD.

Imperial College of Science and Technology (University of London)

LIBRARY ASSISTANT (Part-time)

Required for work in the Reader Services Section of the Lyne Playfair Library for 20 hours per week. Duties will include issue and return of books, dealing with readers' enquiries and use of the College computer. Library experience not essential but the post calls for a willingness to help readers.

Salary on scale £5,700-£7,785 (plus 13% depending on age & experience. Applications naming two referees, to The College Librarian (L.A.) Lyne Playfair Library, Imperial College, South Kensington, London SW7 2AZ within 2 weeks of the appearance of this advertisement.

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Please enclose SAE for reply.

WEST END

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Phone 835 8515 for further information. Please send CV to TOYOTA TSUSHO KAISHA LTD, 63-45 Marylebone Lane, London W1M 5GB

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Mechanical Engineers/ Electrical Engineers

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STC TELECOMMUNICATIONS

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HORIZONS

The Times guide to career development

Flying high in banking

Beryl Dixon on the prospects for the well-trained and determined



Fiona Macpherson: Success began with determination and a bank loan.

Fiona Macpherson is about to spend a year in New York on attachment to Barclays Corporate Banking Group. Fiona is in the final stages of Barclays' management development programme, and her career so far would be the envy of undergraduates about to enter the job market.

She says modestly that her success owes much to luck and "being in the right place at the right time", but Fiona is a young woman of great determination who has taken steps to make things happen.

In her second year at university reading French and German, she decided to equip herself with a language of greater rarity value. She arranged a bank loan, set off to Peking to learn Mandarin, and returned to her university to graduate in that language. By graduation time she had decided she wanted a "management career which might use languages as a secondary skill".

Barclays were looking for a trained intellect coupled with leadership potential and initiative, and Fiona had certainly demonstrated these. She joined the management development programme and spent the first nine months in an international branch learning the fundamentals of international banking.

Then followed a few months in a domestic branch and a further period in a local head office. The first part of a graduate's training cannot be regarded as stimulating: it was not until the third posting that Fiona took any real decisions - making recommendations on loan requests - but future managers must experience banking at all levels, and she had the sense to use this period to make inroads into her Institute of Bankers (IOB) examinations.

Fiona's big move came after 18 months when she was sent to the new office in Peking. Foreign banks had only recently moved into China and Fiona joined a small team serving expatriates, developing business and making contact with the Chinese. During this time she used a correspondence course to complete all the examinations for the IOB associate'ship - before she had clocked the three years' experience necessary to register as an associate member.

On her return to England it was felt she needed more time in mainstream banking and she was immediately sent on a export services. Her new American posting will be in corporate banking, completing Fiona's training in all areas of banking practice. She will then be in line for a management

position anywhere in the Barclays group. Despite her fluency in Mandarin, her training programme is designed to enable her to reach senior general management, rather than become a specialist.

Paul Zisman is another graduate on his way up in banking, in the smaller world of merchant banking, with Hambros in the City. He graduated in a management career rather than one involving his degree subject. He, too, had to impress his interviewers with social and personal skills and was asked more about his hobbies and interests than his academic work.

Paul's training has not been as structured as Fiona's. Merchant banks have a tradition of training on the job,

Sixty per cent find jobs after YTS

Some 60 per cent of young people who left the Youth Training Scheme last summer went into employment, with a further 10 per cent going into further education or training, according to a survey by the Manpower Services Commission.

The survey covered young people who left the scheme between July and September 1984, 63 per cent of whom had completed the programme. The questionnaire was sent to a 15 per cent sample of leavers three to six months after leaving the scheme.

Mr Bryan Nicholson, the MSC chairman, said: "The results show clearly that employers look favourably on young people who have been through the scheme."

and Paul's first position was in the corporate finance department, in a team of four working on particular projects. Paul explains: "We advise companies wishing to 'go public' or to merge with or take over other companies. We may spend several months finding out about company X, in the greatest confidence and then, should the takeover happen, the bank advises on tactics and handles the mechanics."

As the junior in the team, Paul learned from experienced staff and at first his work was always checked. Even so, he needed the initiative and confidence that his recruitment interviewer had been looking for. Pressure is immense when takeovers are in the wind and social life disappears as staff work through evenings and weekends. At the age of 22, Paul had the responsibility of addressing managing directors and chairmen at meetings.

Few merchant banks use the IOB examinations. Paul first followed a short course in banking for graduates then, on his own initiative, discovered and took a seven-week course at the City University Business School. All new Hambros entrants since Paul have also completed this course. Paul also took, of his own volition, an evening course at the London Business School. Merchant banking is a young man's world, and if he continues to progress, he could be a director in his thirties.

Banks are not full of Pauls and Fionas, but the pair are typical of the new breed of high flier needed by all the banks.

In the past banking was not noted for recruiting many graduates or developing them properly. Merchant banks were very much family businesses recruiting public school leavers with family connections (some still do), while the clearers preferred home-grown managers who had served loyally from the age of 16.

All that changed several years ago when the banks woke up to the fact that their business was no longer easy and gentlemanly, but was fast-changing and competitive business. A different breed of manager was needed, and the brightest young people preferred to go to university. Now, all run graduate development programmes. The merchant banks provide shorter formal training periods for their smaller numbers of recruits, geared to individual needs: the clearers recruit in larger numbers and have schemes lasting for set periods (four years is typical), though still tailored to the individual. Some clearers subdivide their graduates: the Midland for example selects again for a "special grade" scheme 18 months after entry.

What they are all looking for is the personable, motivated graduate, prepared like Fiona and Paul to make things happen. For the favoured few in that bracket prospects are excellent.

BANKING & ACCOUNTANCY APPOINTMENTS

Trade 01-278 9161/5

BADENOCH & CLARK

CORPORATE FINANCE

To £25,000 + Benefits
One of the leading Accepting Houses, due to the expanding activities of its Corporate Finance Division, is seeking talented graduates with a relevant professional qualification. Solicitors with company and commercial experience or ACAs with an Investigations/Corporate Advisory background are therefore invited to contact Robert Digby for an informal discussion.

MICRO CONSULTANT

To £25,000
Our client, an established medium size firm of chartered accountants require an exceptional candidate to head up their computer services. Applicants must be qualified accountants, aged 28-35, with extensive experience of a wide range of systems and the ability to hold their own in a competitive environment. The successful candidate will be required to set up a fully large internal system and to develop consultancy facilities for the firm. Achievement in this role will be rewarded with short term partnership prospects. Please contact Colin Perkins or Joe Varney.

TAXATION ACCOUNTANTS

To £16,000 + Benefits
On behalf of several of our clients, who include Multinational Oil Corporations and UK based Construction Companies, we are actively recruiting young, ambitious candidates to augment their rapidly expanding taxation divisions. Applicants should be 23-28, graduates ACAs or ACCAs and have a minimum of one year's experience in taxation gained preferably from a medium to large sized professional firm. To discuss these possibilities, please contact Timothy Burroughs or Rachel Colson.

GROUP ACCOUNTANT

To £16,000
International engineering conglomerate require young, ambitious, high calibre, graduate Chartered Accountant for wide ranging role as Group Accountant, reporting to the Board. Please contact Simon Harwood.

Financial Recruitment Specialists
16-18 New Bridge St, London EC4V 6AU
Telephone 01-583 0073

CAREERS IN BANKING/FINANCE

TAXATION SPECIALIST - UK £17,000 + Bank Benefits

A Major Banking Group seeks a highly professional Chartered Accountant, aged 27-30 years, with a minimum of 2 years UK corporate taxation experience gained within the specialist division of a "top 8" accounting firm, or a banking environment. This position represents a genuine opportunity for personal development, and candidates should possess strong communicative skills and a creative approach to taxation problems.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTANT £15,000 + Bank Benefits

A fully qualified Accountant (ACA/ACCA) with significant experience of computerised systems and lease accounting, possibly from an auditing perspective, is sought by a leading Finance Company, part of a Major British Banking Group. The appointee will be responsible for the preparation of monthly management & annual statutory accounts, and taxation computations as well as ad hoc projects as directed by the Board. Prospects and benefits are excellent.

For the above and similar vacancies, please contact
Jill Backhouse or Peter Haynes

All applications will be treated in strict confidence.
JONATHAN WREN & CO. LIMITED
170 Bishopsgate, London, EC2M 4LX
Tel: 01-623 1266

Jonathan Wren
RECRUITMENT
CONSULTANTS

QUALIFIED ACCOUNTANT

The International Racing Bureau Limited headquartered at Newmarket requires a qualified accountant to assist in the expansion of its international business activities. The IRB provides highly specialised services for jockey clubs and racing associations, the racing columns of international newspapers and magazines, the marketing of televised racing internationally, and assists owners and trainers entering and running their horses overseas. The company has offices in London, Newmarket, Dublin, Paris, Lexington, and representatives throughout the world. The turnover of the company has grown 15 times since acquisition in 1979.

A qualified accountant is required to take responsibility for all financial budgets and plans as well as supervise and co-ordinate the accounting procedures of a dynamic organisation with 80% of its turnover coming from overseas. An enthusiasm for horse racing, and experience of the racing and breeding industries would help, but the primary requirement is for the candidate to take responsibility for all financial and accounting functions and fit in happily with a dedicated and specialist team.

The position will be located at Newmarket and will involve European and some international travel. The company operates a policy of an attractive package of salary, profit sharing, pension and health insurance. Relocation expenses would be available.

Please apply with curriculum vitae to Nick Clarke, Managing Director, International Racing Bureau Ltd, Rookery House, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 8EQ.

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

01-278 9161/5

RIVERSIDE HEALTH AUTHORITY

St. Stephens Hospital, Fulham Road
Chelsea, London SW10

ADMINISTRATOR

£7,009 - £8,779 incl.

Do you need a challenge with an opportunity for career advancement and responsibility?

We require a mature, active person to co-ordinate our Education Centre.

Main duties include arranging all bookings for activities at the Centre, providing secretarial support to the Centres' Committees and planning programmes for meetings.

You will need to be a good organiser, with proficient typing and proven administrative skills. Age 24+.

Job descriptions and application form from Personnel Department.

01-352 8161 ext 505

Closing date 12th June 1985.

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

01-278 9161/5

County of Cleveland

County Supplies Officer

£16,482 to £18,870

Re-Advertisement

Following a review of its purchasing activities the County Council has agreed to set up a comprehensive Purchasing and Supplies Unit combining the existing central and department purchasing and supplies activities.

The County Supplies Officer will head this Unit and will have Head of Department status and be responsible to the Purchasing and Supplies Committee for all County Council purchases of goods and services, contract arrangements and the provision of a service to Borough Councils and other public bodies.

It is envisaged that the successful applicant will have substantial management experience in the purchasing and supplies field and related computerised systems (not necessarily in local government) and be professionally qualified (MIPS or F.I.P.S.I. Appointed) and be professionally qualified (MIPS or F.I.P.S.I. Appointed) and be professionally qualified (MIPS or F.I.P.S.I. Appointed) and be professionally qualified (MIPS or F.I.P.S.I. Appointed).

Conditions of Service will be those applicable to J.N.C. for Chief Officers and the post carries an essential user car allowance. Assistance with removal and re-location expenses will be provided in approved cases and temporary housing accommodation may also be available within the County area.

Previous applicants for this post need not re-apply but should inform the County Secretary of their continued interest.

FURTHER PARTICULARS AND AN APPLICATION FORM CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE COUNTY SECRETARY, MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, MIDDLESBROUGH, CLEVELAND TS1 2QH (TELEPHONE 01642 248155 Ext. 2011). THE CLOSING DATE IS 14th JUNE 1985. WE ARE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

PERSONNEL AND TRAINING OFFICER

£10,149-£11,789

The Family Housing Association is one of London's largest housing associations, managing nearly 5,000 units of accommodation, with a 100 staff based at four office locations and c.40 ancillary staff.

The post-holder will be based at the head office in Kensington, SW9, and will be responsible for the day-to-day maintenance of personnel and training. The post-holder will also be required to assist in the review and development of the personnel function in the Association. The job will also involve liaison with HMV, an external training body for the coordination of all training and the organisation of and participation in internal courses, e.g. induction. Other duties include acting as secretary to committee meetings with NACU, monitoring budgets, preparing salary information, and the administration of personnel.

Personnel experience, a good working knowledge of employment law and administrative ability are essential, as is the ability to work with the minimum of supervision in an informal environment. Housing experience and training skills would be an advantage. Graduate and/or IPM preferred.

Starting salary dependent on experience. Benefits include 26 days holiday p.a. and contributory pension scheme. For a job description and application form, please contact John Rogers on (01) 582 6495.

Closing date for receipt of completed forms: 21 June 1985.

Family Housing Association

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Are You Interested in Human Rights Worldwide?

We need a Secretary for the Head of Campaign and Membership Department. This department is responsible for promoting and strengthening Amnesty International's membership, developing strategies to counter the death penalty, torture and other violations of human rights and co-ordinating professional groups such as lawyers and doctors. You must be an accurate typist, able to work quickly under pressure and to use your own initiative. You must be able to work in a team with a variety of staff and volunteers and have a sense of humour. French and Spanish will be useful, as will experience of minute-taking. Salary £7,957 - £10,567 p.a. Closing date for the return of completed application forms, 17 June 1985. For full details of the above post, telephone London 01-837 3805 (24 hours).

amnesty international

INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

VACANCIES IN THE THIRD WORLD

IVS sends skilled people for two-year appointments to work for development and self-reliance in the Third World. We are looking for qualified and experienced people to work on a modest living allowance in

BOTSWANA, LESOTHO, MOZAMBIQUE and SWAZILAND

Current requirements: architects, planners, civil engineers, foresters, agriculturalists, rural workshop managers/technicians, business training officers, poultry hatchery coordinators, printed textiles crafts instructors, doctors, nurse tutors, occupational/physiotherapists, medical lab technicians, accountants, teachers - sciences, maths, geography, EFL, remedial, primary, and pre-school/infant for health education.

2 year contract including modest living allowance and flights. Regret no funding for dependants. Applicants must be resident at the UK or Ireland. For further details send short c.v. and large a.s.e. to Rose Goringe, Dept T18, International Voluntary Service, 63 Regent Road, Leicester, LE1 6YL.

HAY-MSL

Management Consultants

Management Consultants

Central Government

General Management · Organisation · Personnel

HAY-MSL works with clients in the public and private sectors to resolve pressing human resource issues. These include planning and implementing large-scale organisation change and all aspects of personnel policy. The varied nature and rapid growth in our work for government departments and agencies in these areas, as well as in general management, offers a particularly interesting range of consultancy challenges.

Probably aged 30 to 35, you will be able to demonstrate analytical ability, creativity, and human relations skills of a high order. You will also have a good honours degree and either:

* Fast track administrative - including line management - experience in government coupled with direct knowledge of establishments, finance or management services

OR * Significant management consulting experience which includes work on central government assignments.

The career development opportunities in our first-rate public sector team - or, in due course, elsewhere in our broadly-based professional practice - are excellent. We also offer a competitive and performance-related base salary, car and free BUPA - plus a substantial profit share based on company performance.

Please write - in confidence - with full details, quoting reference A.15908 and providing (if possible) a day-time telephone number to Colin Bexon, HAY-MSL Management Consultants Group Limited, 52 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0AU.

These appointments are open to men and women.

TAX TRAINING

EXPERIENCED TAX SPECIALIST

Is required to lead the tax training for our National Tax Service.

The successful candidate will be responsible for the preparation and presentation of training material which will involve direct personal participation and will report direct to the firms National Director of Training.

A thorough knowledge of Direct Taxation in all its aspects and its practical application gained principally in the profession is essential in addition to appropriate experience in training.

It is anticipated that this assignment will be for a limited period of 2 years followed by a transfer to a senior position in the Corporate Tax Department of the London office.

Please write to:
Paul Morris, National Tax Director, 8 St. Bride Street, London, EC4A 4DA. Enclosing a C.V. giving full details of experience.

BINDER HAMLYN

Chartered Accountants

SALES AND MARKETING
Trade 01-278 9161/5

SYNCHRO SALES PROFESSIONALS
£25K O.T.E. & CAR

Synchro Systems, recognised market leaders in the supply of computer systems to the Leisure Industry, are expanding their Sales and Marketing Division and require sales professionals to join their regional sales teams based in Barnet (Herts) and Newcastle (Staffs), to sell their highly successful range of hardware and software systems.

Proven sales ability is essential. Experience of selling to the Leisure and Public Sectors would be an advantage.

IF THE CHALLENGE OF THIS NEW AND EXCITING MARKET PLACE APPEALS PLEASE APPLY IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE WITH C.V. TO:

Linda Foster
Synchro Systems Limited
Coppell House, Nelson Place
Newcastle-under-Lyme
Staffordshire ST5 1EZ

AGRICHEMICAL SALES - Papua New Guinea

A substantial international trading company established in the UK requires a technically qualified person to join their team in Papua New Guinea. Experience in tropical agriculture an advantage and a good knowledge of an international range of agricultural and fertilisers essential.

Preference will be given to applicants 23-30 years.

Competitive salary and terms negotiable including one year tours with home leave.

This is a progressive post with long term prospects.

Closing date for applications
Monday 17th June 1985

Write with full details of your qualifications and experience to:

Box 2862 Y, The Times.

EUROPE AMERICAS Marketing Operations Manager

London

An expanding International Company wish to strengthen their team of experienced marketing and sales specialists at their Divisional Headquarters.

The key task is the profitable development of existing, well founded (e.g. major products through vigorous and enterprising merchandising and selling. This is done through importers, agents and distributors in the region ably assisted by market managers.

Much scope exists for the exercise of commercial management.

Please write in complete confidence, enclosing a suitably detailed C.V. to:-

A.J.M. Nevils,
Anthony Nevils International Limited,
Los Angeles - Baltimore - The Hague - Dubai - Singapore - Hong Kong - Tokyo
31 Castle Street, Farnham, Surrey GU9 7JB.
Farnham (0252) 711311

c£20,000

talents and marketing ability. Performance standards are stringent and the tempo is fast. Size, challenge and opportunity abound - this is a development post. A particular knowledge of marketing selling in the region and a proven, sustained record of achievement is required in market research, advertising and sales promotion.

You will have a professional qualification, and be aged between 30-40 and have a knowledge of the local language.

SUPER SECRETARIES
01-837 0668

SECRETARIES

Our Westminster Headquarters has several vacancies offering variety and responsibility. Salaries from £5,250 A.A.E. Hours are 9.30 am-5.30pm, and we give 25 days annual holiday.

Applicants must have accurate shorthand and typing, a confident telephone manner and at least 'O' level education, including English.

Please ring our Personnel Manager on 01-837 0668 to find out more. (No agencies.)

SECRETARIES

Royal Institute of British Architects

We need a shorthand secretary to work in our Legal Advisory Office. You will assist with administration on contracts, as well as provide normal secretarial services. Our Practice Department needs an office secretary to help with general typing and secretarial duties in a busy office concerned with architects' problems.

At least a year's experience and a tactful personality are essential for both positions.

Salary £5,348. 21 days' holiday, with an extra week at Christmas and LVs are provided.

Further details from the Personnel Officer, on 01-580 5333 ext 228. Royal Institute of Architects, 66 Portland Place, London W1N 4AD.

IN SEARCH OF EXCELLENCE
£9,000 neg

International firm of headquarters are looking for smart well-educated PA's to assist their Senior Partner. You will be dealing with top names in industry, and you will be responsible for the efficient running of the office. You will also be responsible for the efficient running of the office. You will also be responsible for the efficient running of the office.

OIL CO.
Directors See £9,000

Setting up a new oil company. 100% neg. with knowledge of WP.

Ring Sarah Conn on 831 8411

J.B. APPOINTMENTS (Rec Cont)

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME Trade 01-278 9161/5

Charles of the Ritz

Leading cosmetic company require Secretary-Promotions Manager based in London W1. We are seeking to recruit a competent, well organised and efficient secretary to assist in the smooth running of this very busy department.

The successful applicant will have a high standard of shorthand typewriting and presentation, a pleasant telephone manner and be able to show diplomacy and tact in direct customer/client liaison. Numeracy and organisational skills are essential.

Age range 21-30 years with at least 3 years experience at senior management level. A background in the cosmetic industry would be advantageous, but not essential.

We offer very pleasant working conditions, a competitive salary, non-contributory pension scheme and free life insurance.

Please write with full CV to Mrs W. West, Personnel Manager, Charles of the Ritz, Victoria Road, Burgess Hill, West Sussex RH15 9LQ

ANNABELINDA

Dynamic young person needed for challenging opportunity to undertake promotion of Annabelinda in Liberty, Regent Street.

Experience not essential. Apply in writing with photograph as soon as possible to:

Belinda O'Hanlon,
6 Gloucester Street,
Oxford OX1 2NB

Business Administration Assistant for Senior Partner of American International Law Firm

We are seeking a person with sound business administration experience to work with our very busy senior partner who is involved in a broad range of international legal and business matters. The successful candidate will be responsible for the efficient running of the office and will be required to undertake a wide range of administrative tasks.

Please send details to:

Christine Fox, Gottsman Jones & Partners, Aldwych House, Aldwych, London WC2E 4HN. Tel 01-242 8953.

PA UP TO £10,000

This is a true PA position for a person with a high standard of shorthand and typing, a pleasant telephone manner and a high level of initiative. You will be responsible for the efficient running of the office and will be required to undertake a wide range of administrative tasks.

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Ask Alfred Marks

If you are earning a minimum of £25,000 pa and you are an experienced and motivated Secretary - we want to hear from you.

Contact us on St James's 01-499 4833

Alfred Marks Recruitment Consultants,
41 Pall Mall, St James's, London, SW1

P.A. TO MANAGING DIRECTOR
Up to £10,000 West End

A people orientated company which combines high professional standards with a pleasant, relaxed atmosphere is looking for a highly organised P.A. Excellent communication skills needed. Full involvement from day one. Ring Clair Ward, Ref C5588.

13/14 Hanover Street, London W1R 9HG Tel 01-493 5788

PRIVATE HOSPITAL SECRETARY
Up to £8,250 - Chelsea

A really superb job and a really unusual one at that! Emphasis on administration, organisational abilities, PR and Personnel. Good shorthand and typing needed but not used extensively.

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JOAN TREE

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
39 FLORAL STREET WC1
01-338 2835

ALFRED MARKS Recruitment Consultants

BILINGUAL SECRETARY
French or English

Our primary task is to recruit secretaries to join as a team working on a project basis in a variety of industries. The successful candidate will be required to undertake a wide range of administrative tasks.

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41 Pall Mall, St James's, London, SW1

THE QUANTUM LEAP
c. £9,000+

Your recent experience in a challenging environment has prepared you for a job that offers the opportunity to develop your skills and to work for a company that is at the forefront of its field. You will be responsible for the efficient running of the office and will be required to undertake a wide range of administrative tasks.

City Office 01-728 8481

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Small Kensington office dealing internationally, requires a personable, reliable, non-smoking PA/Secretary to busy MD. Applicants should be prepared to undertake a wide range of administrative tasks, including typing, shorthand, and general office duties.

Send CV to: Hayley White and Spelt Marketing, 25A Dorset Place, London W1N 8PH.

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Unrivalled, intelligent, flexible secretary to busy MD. The successful candidate will be responsible for the efficient running of the office and will be required to undertake a wide range of administrative tasks.

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Love + Tate
APPTS

Senior Secretaries

CITY CAREER MOVE
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£25,000 + Bonus

The renowned secretaries based in City, seeking an exceptional 2nd jobber to work as Secretary to the Managing Director. This is a superb opportunity for you to combine your secretarial skills and administrative ability. You will be responsible for the efficient running of the office and will be required to undertake a wide range of administrative tasks.

Box 2291 T The Times

PA/SECRETARY

Required for a young active company in Battersea, close to Wandsworth Bridge. Varied work requiring an ability to work on own initiative and to organise, plus a sense of humour.

Attractive salary and conditions. Please apply in writing with CV to:

THE SECRETARY
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London, SW11 3BJ or Tel: Mr Harvey on 01-358 1596

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For both Chairman and Managing Director to work in small business in the City of London. The successful candidate will be responsible for the efficient running of the office and will be required to undertake a wide range of administrative tasks.

City 01-236 3712

West End 01-499 8070

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

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City 01-236 3712

West End 01-499 8070

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Media Appointments

Editorial Opportunity

COUNTRY LIFE requires a FASHION EDITOR to arrange and write fashion features, choose the clothes and accessories to feature in the magazine, organise photography and direct the work of the fashion assistant.

Salary in line with NUJ Agreement. Write in confidence, enclosing a full curriculum vitae to the Editor, Country Life, IPC Magazines Ltd, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS.

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DIARY OF THE TIMES CLASSIFIED

Over one million of the most affluent people in the country read the classified columns of The Times. The following categories appear regularly every week, and are generally accompanied by relevant editorial articles.

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City 01-236 3712

West End 01-499 8070

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PA Marketing

The Direct Mail Marketing Group is an expanding and progressive section within the major international charity. The Group is responsible for the efficient running of the office and will be required to undertake a wide range of administrative tasks.

Please write with full CV to Mrs W. West, Personnel Manager, Charles of the Ritz, Victoria Road, Burgess Hill, West Sussex RH15 9LQ

ANTIQUE

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Required for large indoor antique market in Marylebone. Must be experienced in book-keeping and have a high standard of shorthand and typing. The successful candidate will be responsible for the efficient running of the office and will be required to undertake a wide range of administrative tasks.

Telephone 725 8088

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A Secretary is required to work for a large financial institution. The successful candidate will be responsible for the efficient running of the office and will be required to undertake a wide range of administrative tasks.

Telephone 725 8088

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